

Admin, LACO

Subject: FW: End of life choice

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From: Sarah Gaythwaite

Sent: Friday, 13 October 2017 8:47 PM

To: Joint Select Committee on End of Life Choices <eolcc@parliament.wa.gov.au>

Subject: End of life choice

I am a firm believe that we should be able to aid a person to speed up the end of their life.

My father died of lung cancer in January 2001. He had always been a fit and active man. He was born in 1917 and made it though the Second World War as well. He came here from England in 1957 and a couple of years later went up to Wittenoom to work the asbestos mines. His cancer wasn't classed as mesothelioma but the oncologist said it was a very aggressive type of cancer you'd normally see in a heavy smoker. I still say it was related as he recounted having his nose stream with blood after working daily in the mines.

His last days were spent being slowly starved to death. We are told it would hasten his demise. To watch my father become a skeleton was the hardest thing ever. It traumatised me. We stayed with him at the hospice in Murdoch literally willing him to die. That will haunt me until I die that I prayed to some unknown creature to hasten my fathers suffering. I was with him when he died. I'll never forget how his hands went slowly colder. His breathing more laboured and then stopped.

It was disgusting that we allow a human being to suffer like that. And their family members. And the poor staff who have to care for them and watch it all unfold.

For whatever gods sake PLEASE change the laws.

Sarah Gaythwaite

Sent from my iPhone