

Attention: Principal Research Officer
Joint Select Committee on End of Life Choices
Legislative Assembly
Parliament House
PERTH WA 6000

16th October 2017

Ms Amber-Jade Sanderson MLA
Chair of Joint Select Committee on End of Life Choices



Dear Ms Sanderson,

I am writing in support of any laws that will allow voluntary euthanasia or assisted dying in WA. I have personal experience of the futile suffering of dying people having worked as a nursing assistance in hospital for many years.

If someone wants to end her/his life under those conditions (voluntary euthanasia or VE), then the act would have to be carried out while the individual was still able to do it of his/her own volition.

Reliable, legal and peaceful methods to end one's life are not readily available to the older generation who may want to avoid a continuing decline in health and dignity.

Ultimately, I want to have the right to determine how and when my life is to end, if I were terminally ill, suffering unbearably without the prospect of improvement, or if I had to depend on others for even the most basic care. Suitable palliative care should be available to all who want it. However, I should also be able to get medical help for a peaceful death, as long as I am competent and have been informed of alternatives. A good death should be at a place of my choice, peacefully, and with family or friends around.

Thank you for considering my submission.

Yours sincerely,

Lesley Allnutt