

## Admin, LACO

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**Subject:** FW: Voluntary Euthanasia

**From:** rachel dockery

**Sent:** Sunday, 22 October 2017 8:50 PM

**To:** Joint Select Committee on End of Life Choices <[eolcc@parliament.wa.gov.au](mailto:eolcc@parliament.wa.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Voluntary Euthanasia

Attn: Joint Select Committee on End of Life Choices.

Dear Committee,

I wish to add my voice to those already contacting you re end-of-life-choices. I find it hard to believe that anybody would protest and/or condemn measures taken to end the life of somebody in pain, when all medical investigation shows there is no cure for, and no chance of improvement in, the condition of a patient. To continue to use medical and social resources to prolong a life against the wish of the sufferer and their family is at best primitive, at worst cruel, and from a detached point of view needless use of resources which could be better spent helping people who can recover.

However, I would further advocate making the law flexible enough that a person of their own free will could end their life should they discover they have an incurable disease, including the diagnosis of alzheimers Disease or similar conditions which eventually put the patient in a situation where they are totally dependent on other people for all their bodily needs. Surely if an adult person, still of right mind, prefers that they choose when and how they will die, rather than ending up with absolutely no control over how they are treated, this should be permissible, and any assistance rendered to said person should not be judged as a criminal act. Having observed some of the "clients" of the Aged Care establishment where my mother lives, those who no longer can express their needs or have the ability to meet those needs, I dread that I should one day be in their situation, with no control over my daily life, and often with no dignity and no enjoyment of life. I suggest that members of your Committee spend a few hours/days in these establishments and picture themselves in a similar situation in years to come.

I sincerely hope that your committee can persuade our politicians to respect citizens who would like this control over their own destiny, and to recognize that none of us are suggesting that voluntary euthanasia be compulsory (as seems to be the attitude of some of the more ignorant politicians) but that it could be a great comfort to those who would welcome the knowledge it could be available if they were in an impossible situation.

Yours sincerely,

Rachel Dockery