

Principal Research Officer
Joint Select Committee on End of Life Choices
Legislative Assembly
Parliament House
Perth 6000



Dear Sir /Madam

As legislation is being considered for 'Physician Assisted Suicide' / 'Euthanasia' and other means of ending ones life. I would like you to consider my concerns.

Everyone has an innate desire for self preservation, even with terminal illness, suffering or old age. Sadly, many factors and also influences from people close to the infirm, come in subsequently to discourage this desire for life.

We are very fortunate to have good palliative care available for patients experiencing chronic or terminal illness. Palliative care should be promoted to the patient, relatives and carers especially when the patient is depressed, with feelings of inadequacies or being a burden on the family. As a caring society we should always consider good medical practices.

We should review current practices, reports and materials in Australia and overseas not just merely seeking the easy, short term solutions, especially as so often the economics are considered as prime importance and not the welfare of the patient.

Federal laws should be carefully considered and examined that may impact on such legislation. The finality of a person's life should be of utmost importance as there is no redress to the issue.

Considerations of Advance Health Directives, Enduring Power of Attorney, Guardianship laws and implications on any proposed legislation should be carefully considered. So often terminally ill and suffering patients are made to feel that they are a burden to their loved ones which should never be the case. Worse still, are the cases where by the beneficiaries, wish to see the demise of a family member to financially benefit themselves.

I hope the above and many other unmentioned points will be carefully considered as this legislation effects the finality of death in our society.

Sincerely,

Mr Craig Lyra

15 October 2017