

## Admin, LACO

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**Subject:** FW: end of life inquiry

**From:** Marcel Hulshoff

**Sent:** Tuesday, 17 October 2017 6:43 PM

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

**Subject:** end of life inquiry

Hello

My name is Marcel Hulshoff. Just over a year ago I was told I have Prostate Cancer, with 10% chance of a cure and 30% chance of 5 years.

I have read about Prostate Cancer and it seems that the cancer will eventually go to the lungs and to the bones. Despite my optimism that I will be one of the 'cured', I would think, if I am not one of the cured, that my end of life will more than likely be protracted and painful.

Many years ago, our faithful 17 year old dog was on her last legs. We called in the Vet and he administered the drug that ended her life. I held her by the head as this was being done and vividly remember how peaceful and quickly our dog went to 'sleep' surrounded by her loved ones. I knew then that humans deserved no less.

Those who are against 'assisted dying' need not seek for that assistance, and should be allowed to end their lives via the various palliative care means that are available.

However, those same people [should not also be allowed to determine the final days of others](#) (including myself) who may want to use the option of 'assisted dying with dignity', especially if our final days are to be protracted and painful.

Some, including me, may say, "why hang on for a few more days, weeks or months, either in pain or 'morphined into unreality', with family and friends also 'enduring intense suffering' for the duration, when one can choose to go quietly, peacefully, on one's own terms and with dignity, with family and friends around to offer solace and comfort to the 'assisted dying one' and to each other"?

When the time comes for me, I may not choose to opt for assisted dying, but between now and then it would give me SO much comfort and positivity to know that I will have that choice available to me!

I repeat, I respect the views of those who are against 'assisted dying', and respect their choices to opt for a variety of palliative care options. However, [they should not also determine our/my choices as well!!](#)

Regards

Marcel Hulshoff