

Admin, LACO

Subject: FW: Submission: End of Life Choices Inquiry

From: Gerrit van Burgel

Sent: Sunday, 22 October 2017 4:30 PM

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

Subject: Submission: End of Life Choices Inquiry

Dear Members of the Joint Select Committee on End of Life Choices.

Thank you for the opportunity to send a submission.

My name is Gerrit van Burgel and I lost a sister to cancer 10 years ago when she was 32 years old.

The way she fought to the end was an inspiration to me and also her family including two young children.

I am opposed to Euthanasia as it will bring pressure on those with cancer and other terminal diseases to end their life.

It will only bring more emotional suffering on those who need both our support, and the excellent care of the doctors.

Western Australia has one of the best palliative care systems in the world and this will be degraded if the euthanasia push is successful.

We do not want our old people to live in fear. My late grandmother had many siblings in the Netherlands who were fearful to see a doctor or hospital lest they didn't return home.

Respect for life from conception to death is a clear teaching of the Bible, and one of the clearest ways we show that we value human life.

Yours sincerely,

Gerrit van Burgel