

Admin, LACO

Subject: FW: Submission: End of Life Choices Inquiry

From: Shimone Spyker

Sent: Sunday, 22 October 2017 7:17 PM

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

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

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to the above committee regarding euthanasia.

My name is Shimone Spyker, and I have had a number of family members pass away due to terminal cancer, so this is an issue that is personal to me.

Euthanasia involves the ending of a life, a life which was created in the image of God and is sacred to Him. Making the decision to end another's life through euthanasia takes what is in God's control and places it in the hands of men and women.

Our health system and current technology allows for fantastic palliative care, which gives the patient and the family time to say goodbye, while still making the most of the opportunities that remain. I know that my cousins, who's mother died from cancer, would have missed out on very special moments with her that they continue to treasure, should she have been euthenised.

Should euthanasia be legalised, there is potential for patient rights to be impinged upon, particularly in relation to vulnerable patients such as those with intellectual disability, minors, and those who's families have the legal power to make this decision. An irreversible decision to kill a human being should not be made lightly.

I respectfully recommend that the committee do everything in its power to prevent legalised euthanasia and instead support palliative care and pain management so that people do not feel the need to end their life.

Yours sincerely,
Shimone Spyker