

Anne Engelbrecht

October 13th 2017

The Joint Select Committee
On End of Life Choices
Level 1,11 Harvest Tce.
West Perth WA 6001



Dear Sirs / Madams ,

SUBMISSION to the Inquiry into the need of WA LAWS to allow citizens to make informed choices for their end of life. Submitted by Anne Engelbrecht (recently retired Registered Nurse)

I have worked in Hospitals and Aged Care over the past 30 years as a Registered Nurse and Nurse Manager.

I believe that the current WA Laws make adequate provisions for choice for the management at the end of life for all citizens. Therefore, I do not support changing the laws in WA to provide Euthanasia or assisted death.

I address specifically **Palliative Care in your Term of Reference Number One**. In WA, palliative care is excellent and it looks after those terminally ill in Hospital, Hospice, Nursing Homes and Private Homes. These services are carried out by dedicated Medical and Nursing staff throughout the community. No terminally ill patient should need to die in distress, pain or alone. However, I am concerned that not everyone in WA has equal access to palliative care, such as those in rural and remote areas.

I submit to the Committee that their report

- recommends an increase in funding for Palliative Care so that this service be extended to all that require this assistance, and
- excludes any proposal to introduce euthanasia or assisted dying.

Yours Sincerely

Anne Engelbrecht