

## Admin, LACO

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**Subject:** FW: Submission: End of Life Choices Inquiry

**From:**

**Sent:** Monday, 23 October 2017 3:07 PM

**To:** Joint Select Committee on End of Life Choices <[eolcc@parliament.wa.gov.au](mailto: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 Meta Van Der Plas and in the past I have seen loved ones die at a variety of ages. Our family has a inherited disposition to cancer due to a defect gene.

As a Christian I confess that God is the creator of life and that it is He who determines the days we live. Also when and how we die.

We have experienced fantastic palliative care in situations of extreme end of life situations. This has made for a dignified and compassionate time of parting with the 'patient' whilst there needs of incapacity and pain were managed sensitively and considerately. It greatly helps both the person dying as well as the ones who will be left behind. Often there were still moment to be treasured dearly despite the end of life challenges.

If euthanasia is legalized there will be pressure on patients and caregivers to speed up a path of pending death at an un- natural rate. Also pressure to not be a burden may greatly increase the suffering of an ill person who wishes not to pursue the path of euthanasia. Children with disabilities may have no voice in the choice of parents to end their life due to (perceived) pain or burden placed upon them. And elderly people who to some may no longer have a reason to live may be prematurely removed from this life to facilitate convenience. What message are we sending to the generations to come....

Please do everything in your power to prevent legalised euthanasia and instead support palliative care so that people do not feel the need to end their life.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Meta Van Der Plas

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