

Mr. Hugh Girod

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**SUBMISSION to:** Principal Research Officer of the Joint Select Committee on End of Life Choices  
Inquiring into the need for laws in Western Australia to allow citizens to make informed choices  
regarding their own end of life choices

I do not support changing State laws to provide for voluntary euthanasia or physician-assisted dying.

Euthanasia and PAD are promoted as if they were a simple way to address the complex problem of suffering at the end of life. They are not simple. They both carry substantial risks.

Wherever euthanasia or PAD has been legislated for persons with chronic or terminal illness, the laws have always been subsequently extended to cover other classes of citizens, on the basis that it would be discriminatory not to do so. This is inevitable once Parliament breaches the absolute prohibition on one person intentionally killing another.

Neither euthanasia nor PAD have been legislated safely anywhere in the world.

The only way to protect all classes of citizens into the future is to make sure that euthanasia and PAD are never made lawful.

I do not wish to appear before the Committee to present my case.

Yours sincerely

Hugh Girod  
Friday, 13 October 2017