

Admin, LACO

Subject: FW: Submission Concerning Euthanasia

From: Adrian Reading

Sent: Wednesday, 18 October 2017 7:54 AM

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

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This submission is based on the concerns for the proper protection of human life, in particular the elderly and infirm, in our society.

- If assisted suicide is introduced, it will inevitably lead to an expansion and/or amendment to the rules governing the practice in response to pressures from self-interest minority groups and those persons and organisations seeking to profit from it.
- Government and community have the prime responsibility for the protection and preservation of human life as already demonstrated by the resources and funding directed to hospitals, aged care, community support services and medical services.
- Euthanasia or assisted suicide in the name of compassion is contradictory and alien to the efforts made to protect the most vulnerable, the depressed and the poor from family members and other well-meaning individuals acting under a 'Power of attorney' to make a discretionary decision to kill.
- The introduction of assisted suicide will inevitably lead to social damage and ramifications the impact of which cannot be reversed.
- The call for euthanasia has been generated by an emotional rather a considered viewpoint and in no way would result in an enhancement of the provision of the quality of human life care.

The answer to the call from the suffering endured with people with terminal illness is the funding to provide adequate medical care for the sick and elderly rather than to opt out of both the Government's and Community's responsibility for the dignity and protection of human life.

Adrian Reading