

Sr Francisca Pedrosa

19 September 2017

Legislative Assembly Committee Office
Level 1, 11 Harvest Terrace
West Perth WA 6005



RE: Euthanasia and elder abuse

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am against the proposal to introduce euthanasia because it is far to open to abuse.

Doctors are trained to diagnose disease – not detect coercion. It would be very difficult for a doctor without a long history of caring for a patient and knowing all of their circumstances, to be absolutely certain that family members or someone else with a more sinister motive has not influenced the person's decision.

It is equally worrying that if assisted suicide is introduced, people may be given a prescription of deadly drugs to take at some time in the future – possibly a year later. While the decision to ask for the prescription may have been free, nobody can be certain that there will not be pressure when the drugs are actually taken.

It seems impossible to make such a law safe. Please, do all you can to prevent this from being introduced.

Yours sincerely,