

Ms. Amber-Jade Sanderson MLA,

12th October 2017

Chair of Joint Select Committee on End of Life Choices,

Dear Ms. Sanderson,

I am very pleased to learn that at last serious research and consideration is to be given to the subject of Voluntary Euthanasia in W.A.

I have, for a long time, admired the Governments around the World that have had the compassion to legalise medical assistance for those terminally sick people who wish to end their suffering.

In my opinion, intense pain, not alleviated by palliative care, is not the only criteria. To become immobile, speechless and incontinent and requiring 24 hour care like a baby is so undignified for a human being that he/she should be given the choice to end that state of affairs, if they so wish, and to be able to do it legally with their loved ones beside them at the end. Those unfortunate people who develop a chronic condition such as a neurological one, if it was their wish to terminate their life, would need to do so while he/she was still competent to make the decision.

The alternative is palliative care which is very commendable and is administered by very caring people but it still invariably leads to a long, drawn out undignified end to life.

Please give us the "choice" to end our lives on a high-note with our loved ones to hold our hand. As it is now, the choice of suicide has to be a lonely affair for fear of incriminating family members.

I am an elderly senior and during my lifetime I have witnessed many sad lingering deaths with the person's cries for someone to end their suffering falling on deaf ears because of the law of the land.

I favour a method, used I believe in Switzerland, where the equipment is set up by the medical staff but the Patient activates the final injection or drinks a potion without help. I understand that Country has, with strict guidelines made available Assisted Euthanasia since 1942.

I support any laws that will allow assisted dying in W.A.

Thank you for considering my submission.

Yours sincerely,

(Eileen W.V. Brown)