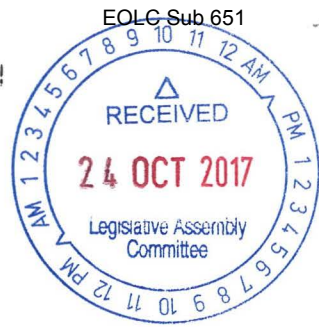


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To - Attention: Principal Research Officer
Joint Select Committee on End of Life Choices
Legislative Assembly
Parliament House
PERTH WA 6000



I wish to pass my reasons for having 'My Choice' when it comes my time for dying with dignity.

Twenty years ago my mother (79) was hospitalised for one year, peg fed and almost inactive on her feet. Her mental outlook was fantastic, alert and she was able to converse when I visited her daily, being her only child. My mother also said she wished she died the day before being admitted to hospital for that period of her life, where no treatment would return her to an active enjoyable life style. Several times the aged care doctor would advise me to call the family to her bedside as her departure was near. This period of grieving was for the whole year, very distressing to the family, and back to work we went – waiting for my mother to shut her eyes and rest in peace. In the final week, the dosage of medication was increased over that period, a very distressing experience for us all, and finally she passed away.

I want no palliative care in my remaining life time, my mother could have been medicated and we could have all been there in loving comfort, not stress. Her prolonged lifetime if that was palliative care, was disscusting and distressing for all.

After my mother's experience, I decided that would never be my experience and from then on I joined groups and educated myself on dying with dignity, 'My Choice'.

I am 73 years of age, I have a family and grandchildren, and I have a TERMINAL ILLNESS – BRAIN TUMOR. I have had a great life, and still enjoy it by playing in ukulele groups and other social groups. I do my Ancestry, gardening (not as actively) but most enjoyable and I attend the Fern garden club monthly. I attend the Cancer Clinic every 8 or 10 weeks, and have treatments of chemo and radiation as my MRI's show cancer at different locations. I enjoy every day of my life, but when my health becomes non-interactive to live my normal life, I WANT TO USE 'MY CHOICE' and leave this life my way. I would like to invite my family to a lovely afternoon tea and then say good bye, and take what I need, but because the Bill/Law is not in place, my family would possibly be charged with an offence. This is disgusting but to safeguard my family (who know my choice, as we have discussed this together) I support the End of Life Joint Standing Committee working to introduce the Bill to the West Australian Parliament in the near future. If when I pass it hasn't been implemented, and I have taken my own clearly thought out action, those in charge or investigating my death are invited to contact my medical professors, my GP and anyone who knows me and can state I am NOT

