

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

11 October 2017

Ms Amber-Jade Sanderson MLA
 Chair of Joint Select Committee on End of Life Choices

Dear Ms Sanderson



I am writing in support of the law being studied by your committee, allowing voluntary euthanasia or assisted dying in WA.

I have personal experience of a family member dying a cruel death. My mother died of Parkinson's disease and the last two years of her life were horrific. The muscles in her eye lids would often not function and she would lie in an apparent sleep and as her throat muscles also let her down, she was often unable to communicate this to others, until her muscles returned to their very limited action. This also meant that she was unable to eat and at the end she looked like something out of a concentration camp. She actually died by choking on a morsel of food that she was unable to swallow.

She was totally dependent upon others to do every task and I know that she found this demeaning. It was this experience that made me determine that I never want to have an end of life like my mother and that I would not want to put my family through what we went through with my mother.

If my poor mother had been an animal, the RSPCA would have prosecuted the family for allowing such suffering.

For the life of me, I cannot understand what business it is of anyone else, how I or anyone else, chooses to end their life at a time of their own choosing. I agree that firm regulation of any such law allowing for voluntary euthanasia, must have strong criteria to ensure that no one's such death is not voluntary. I have studied the legalities of countries that have introduced such legislation and I am confident that this is not an issue.

Given that voluntary euthanasia is exactly that - VOLUNTARY! - I object to people who want to stop others from exercising their personal choices in this regard. They are nothing more than meddling busybodies, who seem to have a need to control others.

It does not affect their life one iota if someone else wishes to end their life with some dignity, when suffering has become intolerable. However their meddling greatly affects those of us, who do not want to suffer such a fate.

If these meddling control freaks wish to endure a horrible or painful death, be my guest! I will not prevent them! I do not even object to my taxes going to pay for the medical support in their choice.

However get them out of my face and let me and others make choices that suit our wishes and desires, just as we support theirs. Please ensure this legislation supporting voluntary euthanasia is passed by the Parliament.

My husband wishes to also sign this letter in support of my viewpoint.

Alison White



John White

