

## **Admin, LACO**

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**Subject:** FW: Euthansia Enquiry for WA

**From:** Brendon Falzon

**Sent:** Monday, 23 October 2017 4:25 PM

**To:** Joint Select Committee on End of Life Choices <[eolcc@parliament.wa.gov.au](mailto:eolcc@parliament.wa.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Euthansia Enquiry for WA

23<sup>rd</sup> October 2017,

I thank my local member of Parliament in Mandurah MP David Templeman into encouraging the community to make written submissions concerning WA Parliament's inquiry into the legislation of Euthanasia.

I'm concerned about the numbers of the committee given there is 1 National, 2 Liberals, 1 Green and 4 Labor MP's that make up the committee of eight MP's. I thank them all for their work to make WA the best place on earth to live. I would have thought a second National MP or an additional Liberal MP or an Independent MP would have provided a more balanced debate.

We saw in Victoria's lower house in the Legislative Assembly (my former home state) that 24 Labor MP's and 2 Green MP voted in favor with only 6 Labor MP's voted against, so therefore the makeup of MP's tells me the McGowan government has a political "pig-headed" agenda to ram this Bill through it's majority numbers in the Lower House. But thank God for the Upper House and I hope the numbers in the Victorian Upper House rejects the bill as would the Upper House in WA one day too.

Politicians tell us to trust us. Daniel Andrew's said the 68 conditions were the most conservative scheme in the world. Really, is that so? According to Michael O'Bryan the Shadow Treasurer stated 'I didn't support the bill because the safeguards aren't safe enough. If the upper house can't improve it, then it should knock it back,' he told reporters. Furthermore, MPs who opposed the bill proposed 141 amendments, but none of them succeeded. That's hardly an example of a conservative scheme by such an "aggressive" determination to reject amendments that provide additional safeguards.

I suspect WA Labor will follow Victoria's lead that saw MP's with little or no sleep. Would anyone get in an aeroplane or onto a train if the pilot or train driver had less than 2 hours sleep, and yet our MP's would be subjected to little or no sleep in making decisions about like changing outcomes for people. This is unacceptable leadership.

I point you all to the greatest healer of all time, with more than 1 billion followers and whose Book is the No. 1 Best Seller of all time in Jesus Christ. There has never been a claim made by any other individual, group, or religion in history whereby Jesus Christ healed all sickness, disease, or infirmity. In the Gospels there are many scriptures that state that Jesus healed all. However, in the Gospels we find approximately 30-40 **individual** healing events (there were 31 individual healings recorded), depending on how you classify the event. We know that each healing event is significant because it was signaled out by the Holy Spirit to be recorded. Out of all the healings that Jesus did in the four Gospels, these individual cases were chosen to represent the basic healing concepts of the New Testament. Each particular healing event demonstrates at least one important concept about healing. Sometimes Jesus drew attention to the important concept such as in **[Mark 2:9-10, Mark 5:30, Luke 13:15-16, Matthew 15:26, Mark 5:36, Mark 10:52]**. Other times the concept is demonstrated by Jesus, then explained **[Matthew 17:19]**. Many believers think of healing as a "fringe benefit". They don't realize that healing is part of the atoning work of Jesus Christ. There was "NO" Euthanasia theme from Jesus.

Our medicine is derived from our Judeo-Christian heritage whose primary principles are to care for people, to preserve life to the maximum that minimises pain and suffering.

The brutal final act of a man in Mr Clive Deverall to end his life, head of the Cancer Council of WA for more than two decades, a former president of Palliative Care WA was incredibly sad," Ultimately we have been given freewill and people ultimately do make their own decisions, but making a law that effectively endorses suicide is too a dangerous consequence."

Former Labor prime minister Paul Keating says the Victorian bill is 'unacceptable'.

'Under Victorian law there will be people whose lives we honour and those we believe are better off dead,' Mr Keating wrote in an opinion piece in Fairfax Media. Keating said the bill passing the Lower House was "a sad moment for the entire country".

Former PM Mr Tony Abbott said: "We don't want anyone to be regarded as useless, worthless or disposable. But that's what this legislation says.

Mr Daniel Andrews example in Victoria in attempting to sanction suicide to "save healthcare dollars" is not the right policy for Western Australia or for any society. It's a much cheaper option to kill people than to save lives from terminal illnesses. Every life is precious.

Finally, my father passed away on the 19<sup>th</sup> of January 2016 due to liver failure. The Aged Care facility were applying pressure to go down the Palliative care route to bring on a faster conclusion to his disease. Our family fought on and saw the application of medicine in the Palliative care unit

that meant he was sleeping and not suffering. He was in a coma state, no eyes blinking and yellow skin on his arms, a mere skeleton of a man and with his final breath at 7:11pm he reached his right arm out to my mother and a tear was shed from his right eye. My parents were married for more than 50 years - they teenage sweethearts at 19 (dad) and 16 (mum). A beautiful ending. I'm so glad we resisted Euthansia for dad.

Please stop this bill. Amen.

Mr Brendon Falzon