

Dear Principal Research Officer,

I would like to raise my concern regarding euthanasia as an option to terminally ill patients.

If this option is approved it will provide more stress to palliative care service providers and families of terminally ill patients. As I understand, the legislation could also stretch beyond terminally ill patients to be provided to mentally ill and sick children, which is a deep concern for the community as choices are made for those who don't have a voice.

I think I have a foot to stand on with this as I tell you that I have lost my father on 21 April this year of terminal colon cancer. He was in South Africa and was provided excellent free of charge and low-cost care from a hospice and home visiting nurse. Our family was with him with his last breath.

As you understand that South Africa is a developing country, it is unacceptable of Australia where there is no death sentence for murderers to provide such an option of euthanasia to patients in order to save money for the government.

It is also as if the lack of religion is driving this decision. As examples from the past can show you that the believe in God is the ultimate comfort in sickness, health and people in mourning. Only He can give and take live.

Disapproving of euthanasia and assisted suicide.

Your sincerely,

Carina Schutte