

I Fr Michael Grace of _____, would like to register my opposition to the Private Members' Bill, sponsored by Senator Bob Brown called the Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Amendment (Disallowance and Amendment Power of the Commonwealth) Bill 2010. Such a bill could be used to bring in Euthanasia and Homosexual Civil Unions that will mimic marriage, both of which I reject.

Euthanasia is a violation of the most sacred duty we have, to care for the elderly and terminally ill. Medicine has always had the purpose of healing or reducing pain, but at its very heart has been the oath to do no harm. Euthanasia, fundamentally reduces the value and dignity of the human person, equating its worth to its utility. Furthermore, the introduction of Voluntary Euthanasia, would, without question, introduce a subtle pressure on people (even in the unlikely event that pressure never became overt) to end their lives so as not to be a bother or burden to people. As a nation we should respect life and respect our elderly enough to insist on their inherent dignity and treat them accordingly and precious and not disposable.

Gay Marriage, is in itself a contradiction in terms. Marriage describes the natural union, of a man and a woman in a lifelong monogamous relationship, with the aim of fostering and procreating a stable family environment. Any other relationship, is by definition, not marriage.

The introduction of this bill, is little more than a thinly veiled attempt by the Greens, to move forward their agenda on these issues. The parliament, in my opinion, has no mandate for such radical change. This in my view, along with the various constitutional issues, which no doubt you are duly considering, should be sufficient to put on hold this bill, until the ramifications of its passing be fully considered.

Yours sincerely

Fr Michael Grace.