Exposure draft of the Medical Services (Dying with Dignity) Bill 2014 Submission 5



Dalby Christian Outreach Centre 44 Orpen Street Dalby QLD 4405 PO Box 734 Dalby QLD 4405

1st August 2014

Dear Sir,

I write on behalf of Dalby Christian Outreach Centre to urge you not to support the legalising of euthanasia. We respectfully ask you to consider the following points:

- 1. Life is sacred and only God should determine when a life is to end.
- 2. Even in the case of those who have been diagnosed as terminally ill, there have been remarkable recoveries with people going on to lead fulfilling lives.
- 3. Were euthanasia to be legalised there would undoubtedly be abuse of the "freedom" that it would theoretically bring. People who were undergoing a period of depression would be very tempted to end it all. There would be a real risk of family members who were not close to an aged relative and who didn't want the ongoing financial burden of high level care to succumb to the temptation of having the person's life terminated. Overall, there would be a high risk of this perceived "freedom" being abused.
- 4. We all need to ask ourselves what message the legalisation of euthanasia would send to children and young people.
- The main goal of our doctors is to preserve life not to end it and the legalisation of euthanasia would put a lot of pressure on them to comply with requests to terminate individual lives.

We urge you not to support the legalising of euthanasia as it would give access to what would undoubtedly become a very slippery slope indeed. Short of a miracle the termination of a human life has to be considered as being irreversible.

Yours faithfully,

George Lee, on behalf of Pastor Ingrid Hubner,

Dalby Christian Outreach Centre