
From: Paul & Hilary Moroney
Sent: Tuesday, 8 April 2008 3:42 AM
To: Legal and Constitutional, Committee (SEN)
Subject: The Rights of the Terminally Ill (Euthanasia Laws Repeal) Bill 2008

Prayer House Ministries Australia Inc.

*The Prayer House, PO Box 8086, Gundaroo, NSW 2620
Ph 02 62368208, fax 02 62368550, email: prayerhouse@pastornet.net.au*

To: Committee Secretary,
Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee,
Department of the Senate,
PO Box 6100,
Parliament House,
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Members of the Committee,

As a previous nurse, and coming from a medical family where my father was an Oncologist running a Palliative care unit in Oxford, UK, I wish to provide a submission requesting that the Rights of the Terminally ill be protected, and that Euthanasia should not be allowed.

I am opposed to the change in the current legislation, as proposed by Senator Brown, for the following reasons:

-Palliative care is the correct response to terminal illnesses, not euthanasia...often just before natural death I have seen people through the process of dying face up to and resolve issues and find peace in their soul before departing this life, which could have eternal consequences.

-The proposed changes devalue human life to being personally disposable and they remove the dignity of human life that at present exists by not allowing euthanasia. These life and death decisions cannot driven by emotional or psychological needs; that would endorse suicide.

-There could be a danger if Euthanasia was made lawful that people's lives could be ended against their will, much evidence of which exists in other nations where restraint is removed.

-Humans cannot create life; it is given and taken by God, and there are consequences that are eternal for taking a life that is sacredGod not Man numbers the days of our lives.

The general consensus I have gained in speaking to people in Australia is that they are strongly opposed to euthanasia, with many seeing it as a door opening for the killing disabled family members or unwanted elderly people, possibly for desire for wealth or other motives.

In history it can be demonstrated that when a society sanctions euthanasia, when this social boundary marker and law is shifted, the consequences are exponential..... the social permission giving attitudes shift increasingly to the extent where human life is devalued till it is perceived as being on the same level of an object What starts will killing the unborn, slides to killing the terminally ill and then progresses to other forms of convenience killing.....all in the name of false compassion.

The Senate would be wise to heed these thoughts that Euthanasia is not the right answer to the treatment of terminal illnesses, and should reject Senator Brown's proposed changes.

Yours Faithfully,
Dr. Hilary Moroney,
Director, Prayer House Ministries Australia Inc. Email: prayerhouse@pastornet.net.au
PO Box 8086, Gundaroo NSW 2620 Ph: 02 62368208