

Throughout Australia, the criminal law prohibits the intentional taking of innocent human life, consistent with criminal codes throughout the world. But, since the intentional taking of innocent human life is the specific aim of any euthanasia law, such a law would be unique in the following critically important ways, differing from all other laws in the code:

- its intention is to subvert the existing law,
- it fails to respect the principle that all are equal before the law,
- it fails to respect the principle that all human lives have equal value and
- it attempts to gain legal recognition for the concept of life not worth living.

This would present an impossible task, if honesty were to prevail. In order to succeed, it must become what may be called a B Grade part of the criminal law. It would have to rely on such things as asserted but non-existent human rights, shades of deceit, inexact definitions and reliance on subjective, and therefore arbitrary, elements, including the support of opinion polls, which are totally subjective. When all such drafts to date, presented before the State parliaments over many years, are reviewed, it can be observed that they go to extreme lengths to shield the doctor from the effects of A Grade law, no matter what he or she may have done negligently or by omission, while including many opportunities for endangering the lives of patients who did not want their life ended.

By those criteria, any euthanasia law would be unsafe.