

MY NAME: ALAN WADE MacKNIGHT

My Address: [REDACTED]

My Age: 76

MY Occupation: Retired

**My Submission to the Committee of Enquiry
In support of the Act to Repeal
The EUTHANASIA LAWS ACT 1997**

Dear Committee,

May I place on record my sincere appreciation for the opportunity to present my submission in support of the Bill for an Act to repeal the Euthanasia Laws Act 1997.

For many years now I have given serious thought to the shattering prospect of being forced to exist unable to communicate and completely incapable of looking after myself with dignity, in a state of complete dependence on other people and being fully aware of the piteous state I was in and **powerless** to do anything about it. This was the lamentable condition I saw my uncle endure for 10 years after a stroke that converted a vital 60 year old man into a wretched object of pity in an instant.

Sadly this scenario was duplicated when my widowed mother who was profoundly deaf and suffered from Dementia lingered on for over 10 years in the War Veterans' Nursing Home at Collaroy Sydney unable to communicate with family and was in a state of undignified distress for all that time.

The prospect of serving out my final years of "life" staring at the ceiling or, on a good day, the walls, for 10 years or more as was my mother's soul destroying experience, is anathema to me and in my opinion the option for a merciful release by a voluntary request for **TERMINATION OF LIFE** by myself or a person legally delegated by me in my **ADVANCED HEALTH CARE DOCUMENT** must be made legally available to me in these enlightened times.

No rational thinking human being should have to face any period of uselessness and total dependence on others for all needs and attention to bodily functions and general welfare at the latter stage of life. If dignity and quality of life can't exist at this time I demand the option to TERMINATE it. As we don't live in the N.T / ACT or Norfolk Island we realise that the passage of Bob Brown's Bill would not assist us but we hope that it's passage would empower our State Legislators to make similar changes.

WE URGE the committee in the strongest possible terms to facilitate the repeal of the contemptible- EUTHANASIA LAWS ACT 1997.

[REDACTED]
/Alan W MacKnight

26th March 2008

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Zedna D MacKnight /