



Macquarie University Catholic Chaplaincy

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Catholic Chaplaincy
Macquarie University
Balaclava Rd
Epping, NSW
2109

8/4/07

SENATE INQUIRY
legcon.sen@aph.gov.au

To Whom It May Concern:

I strongly urge the Committee NOT to proceed with this Bill. I believe that if we were to legalise euthanasia it would have disastrous effects on the people of this great country.

As you would be well aware this matter was debated at length in 1997. Then, as now, the majority of people in this country would wish this bill NOT to pass. As someone who is associated with many people within the nursing profession I know that there is absolutely no need for anyone to die “without dignity,” as the pro-euthanasia lobbyists put it. Due to the advanced techniques now available for the relief of pain there is absolutely no need for people to undertake euthanasia. In fact, due to these techniques, to euthanize oneself is to truly die without dignity.

On another level, it is not always possible to determine whether or not a patient has a terminal illness. This is another reason why the bill should not proceed.

I have personally known a number of people who have thought that assisted suicide would be a legitimate option until they were faced with the reasons for the opposing argument. Once these reasons were exposed to them they were outraged that never had access to these arguments in the public forum.

I strongly urge you to NOT proceed with the Bill to legalise Assisted Suicide or Euthanasia.

Andrew Wood (D.O.B. 17/10/73)
Catholic Chaplaincy Convenor
Macquarie University
