

Submission on the Rights of the Terminally Ill (Euthanasia Laws Repeal) Bill 2008 to the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee.

We, who have signed our names below, are Aboriginal people from the Northern Territory.

We don't want this Bill because it will bring back the old euthanasia law (the Rights of the Terminally Ill Act) to the Territory.

When this law was in the Territory 11 years ago Aboriginal people already said that we don't want this law. This law is a big risk to our people, because in the Northern Territory, most of the people in hospital are Aboriginal.

IT IS NOT THE ABORIGINAL WAY TO KILL

AN OLD PERSON OR A SICK PERSON WITH A NEEDLE.

If hospitals and doctors can give a needle to make a person die then many Aboriginal people will be too afraid to go to the hospital or to the doctor. They won't get the help they need when they are sick.

The Prime Minister, Mr Rudd, and the Leader of the Opposition, Dr Nelson have promised to close the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians by 2030 so that Aboriginal people live as long as other Australians. This would not be helped by a euthanasia law.

Aboriginal people in the Territory need more health services, including a cancer treatment unit, not the offer of a needle to put them down.

Please tell the Senate we don't want this Bill.

Name (Print)	Address	Signature
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