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SUBMISSION TO COMMITTEE

for the Rights of the Terminally Ill (Euthanasia Laws) Bill 2008.

HONORABLE MEMBERS, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Dated: 26th of March 2008.

Why a dying person should have the choice?

(1) Because we live in a free Country, we make undisputed choices all along throughout life, denying the last wish is denying freedom (Freedom is a Constitutional Right in any Civilized Country).

(2) Because of compassion for the person who desire to end his/her suffering in a dignified way. We must bear in mind that Palliative Care can only alleviate physical pains, the mental pain in knowing that there is no hope to recover, seeing your loved ones day in day out suffering at seeing you languishing in a bed telling you white lies like: "Oh! You look better today...".

(3) Because it is not right to force a person to have an horrible slow death against the person own will while wasting enormous resources that could be used to help those that need and want help for example easing the waiting list for Elective Surgery (People who want to go on living `at this stage`).

(4) Because Australia should be what it claims to be: "A Free Country", without choice its citizens are not free.

(5) Because it make sense to grant the last wish (like before the firing

squad) or People should have the right to be called Humans.

(6) Because who wants to suffer to the very end in a wet bed can still do it.

(7) Because who chooses to have Voluntary Euthanasia is a Caring person that wants to spare his/her loved ones a prolonged sight of a pitiful image of a dying person whom they love back.

(8) Because who chooses to have Voluntary Euthanasia is a generous person who also wants to save Government or own money to be used in a more constructive way. Ref. point (3).

(9) Because some of the more advanced Countries have already similar Laws in place but only rich people can afford to go there.

(10) Because of all the above and more. A person that does not own its own life owns nothing.

I conclude by inviting you to imagine yourself in a hospital or nursing home bed with no hope to ever be well again, your skin itching but not able to change position, you call the nurse to turn you over but then you soon want to change your position again (I will leave to your imagination about nature needs or incontinence), minutes seems like hours, hours seems like days, you would want to sleep and never wake up, that would be YOUR LAST WISH, could you deny it to others?

THAT IS FOR YOU TO ANSWER.

Thank you for taking the time to read my humble opinion.

Sincerely,

Germano Brusasco