Legalization of euthanasia

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Euthanasia is a fundamental question of health. There is a growing trend to legalize euthanasia, especially in some Western countries, such as the Netherlands, which was the first country to legalize euthanasia. For some terminally ill patients, it can reduce their pain and equalize the use of medical resources. The legalization of euthanasia is not satisfactory because it has not been regulated in the past, and many countries fear that euthanasia is socially harmful and is not permitted at present. This thesis will study the legalization of euthanasia. Firstly, the legalization of euthanasia will discuss the respect for human life right, secondly, euthanasia is not harmful to society, and finally, the implementation of euthanasia has a strong prerequisite.

With the progress of science and technology and the continuous improvement of medical technology, there are still some medical problems that have not been overcome. Legalizing euthanasia would give terminally ill patients the right to choose to die and would reduce the suffering of patients. In "You Don't Know Jack," doctors use drugs to help patients end their lives with less pain, while making many efforts to legalize euthanasia, which is the practice of allowing dying patients to die with dignity.（Barry Levinson，2010，1:30:12）. However, in some countries, euthanasia has been legally implemented with the consent of the person or his or her family.

The legalization of euthanasia reflects the respect for human's right to life. Human rights included the right to life, and the duty to respect human rights without harm was seen as a universal obligation. Everyone can choose how to live according to his own will. As the BBC mentioned, people have the right to die when and how they want (*BBC - Ethics - Euthanasia: Pro-euthanasia Arguments*, n.d.). When the patient is very sick, their body functions gradually decline, unable to take care of themselves, need the help of family members. This is painful for the sufferer because they love their family to distract them from other things for their own sake. So, euthanasia is allowed if it does not violate any morality. However, the consent of the patient and his family must be obtained, and the individual's choice must be respected. This is their use of their right to life. Moreover, the overwhelming support for physician-assisted dying stems from the fact that patients can die with dignity. For many people with high self-esteem, they want to die with dignity and can be prepared to face death in a more comfortable way, rather than suffering from illness and death in a ferocious manner. So legalizing euthanasia is a relief for people suffering from pain and suffering, and for them it is the best end of life.

Euthanasia in its proper form is not socially harmful. Euthanasia is carried out to help patients reduce suffering and is not socially harmful. Today, the rational use of euthanasia, coupled with strict legal requirements, can reduce the uncontrollable trend. As stipulated in Dutch law, any act of terminating life is a formal crime, and the only exemption from criminal responsibility is if the patient is suffering unbearable pain and there is no hope of improvement（(Ministerie van Volksgezondheid, Welzijn en Sport, 2018). Secondly, correct euthanasia can equitably allocate medical resources, which is beneficial to the allocation of social resources. As we all know, medical resources are limited. When the disease develops in an uncontrollable direction, drugs can no longer prolong life. Correct euthanasia is the guarantee and respect that patients choose their own way of death when they know they are hopeless and bear great pain, so it is not harmful to the society.

However, the implementation of euthanasia needs to meet the strong prerequisite. The first is to recognize that the condition is incurable and that the patient is in extreme pain. For example, the BBC has pointed out that euthanasia can also be carried out in the Netherlands for terminally ill children between the ages of 1 and 12, but the consent of the patients and their families must be obtained. (BBC News, 2020). Secondly, this action can only be implemented if multiple doctors synthesize the patient's condition, and the patient meets the basic requirements for euthanasia. Finally, laws can be used to regulate the implementation of this measure to ensure its legalization.

In conclusion, from what has been discussed above, we can draw the conclusion that euthanasia, when implemented correctly, allows patients to control their own right to life and is not harmful to society. Of course, there are preconditions for patients to accept euthanasia. Legalizing euthanasia may be considered a promising study.

Reference

Barry Levinson，2010，You Don’t Know Jake ，HBO cable channels

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