**NEEMA KARANU - 145702**

**Controversies About Euthanasia**

There are many arguments both for and against euthanasia and PAS. Most of these arguments fall into four main categories:

**Morality and religion**

Some people believe euthanasia is murder and find it unacceptable for moral reasons. Many also argue that the ability to decide your own death weakens the sanctity of life. In addition, many churches, religious groups, and faith organizations argue against euthanasia for similar reasons.

**Physician judgement**

PAS is only legal if someone is mentally capable of making the choice. However, determining someone’s mental capabilities isn’t very straightforward. It’s been found that doctors aren’t always capable of recognizing when someone is fit to make the decision.

**Ethics**

Some doctors and opponents of PAS are concerned about the ethical complications doctors could face. For more than 2,500 years, doctors have taken the Hippocratic oath. This oath encourages doctors to care for and never harm those under their care.

Some argue that the Hippocratic oath supports PAS since it ends suffering and brings no more harm. On the other hand, some debate it results in harm to the person and their loved ones, who must watch their loved one suffer.

**Personal choice**

“Death with dignity” is a movement that encourages legislatures to allow people to decide how they want to die. Some people simply don’t want to go through a long dying process, often out of concern of the burden it puts on their loved ones.

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**Real life example.**

In September 2017 the government of Canada passed the law of Legalizing assisted suicide (Euthanasia) to patience by the physicians. Since the legalization up until 2021 more than 2000 people have died through this method. Sheila Elson and Candice Lewis are an example of Canadians that were offered suicide assistance by the doctor claiming that Candice who suffered; cerebral pulsi, kidney failure and collapsed lungs could not survive. Sheila Elson, the mother insisted that she was not interested in that option and miraculously her daughter is still alive up to date. Sheila and Candice are great activists against mercy killing or Euthanasia in Canada.

**Reference:**

*Assisted Death: The Euthanasia Controversy | Assisted Suicide | Fatal Flaws | ENDEVR Documentary*. (2021). [Video]. Retrieved 4 July 2022, from https://youtu.be/Vxpu\_TFK-UQ.