

10 QUICK REASONS FOR OPPOSING THE LEGALIZATION OF ASSISTED SUICIDE

INCOMPATIBLE WITH GOOD

Legalization of assisted suicide conflicts with the purpose of a good government, which is to protect the lives of all people, in particular those vulnerable due to age, illness, poverty, disability, etc.

ELDER ABUSE

Assisted suicide laws are not written to prevent abuse, specifically toward the elderly.

DUTY TO DIE

Assisted suicide laws lead to a “duty to die” mentality. Concerns about healthcare costs or fear of being a burden to others may put pressure on patients to request lethal drugs.

BAD MEDICINE

Assisted suicide is bad medicine. It is inconsistent with the role of the physician as a healer. Often the best medicine a doctor can offer is hope. When patients are offered assisted suicide, hope is taken away from them.

DOCTORS MAKE MISTAKES

No one, not even doctors, can predict a person's life-expectancy with certainty. Some patients who are given terminal diagnoses recover.

FINANCIAL AGENDAS

Financial interests are often behind assisted suicide laws. Legalization of assisted suicide puts poor and elderly people at risk.

A FALSE SOLUTION

Legalizing assisted suicide gives societal approval to suicide and teaches that suicide is an acceptable solution to human problems, thereby undermining the efforts of suicide prevention. The position of The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline Network is, “we see suicide never being a solution to any problem due to the permanent forfeiture of the victim's future.”

COOPERATIVE PRESSURE

Doctors and nurses may find themselves under pressure to cooperate in their patients' suicides.

IT IS UNNECESSARY

The argument that assisted suicide is necessary to relieve unbearable pain and suffering is not tenable. If someone is suffering from great pain, they do not need suicide, they need a new doctor. One who is an expert in managing pain and symptoms.

Assisted suicide laws remove the incentive for continued medical research, esp. in the area of pain control.

DIGNITY & COMPASSION

Human beings, including those with life-threatening illnesses and disabilities, have dignity and need our compassion. Assisted suicide is neither dignified nor compassionate. Seriously ill or disabled people require love, inclusion, and medical care that values their lives, not hastens their death.

*The duty to care for one another
and to relieve suffering to the very
end of life and the inalienable right
to life are*

**UNCHANGING NORMS FOR A
TRULY CIVILIZED SOCIETY.**

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WE SUPPORT :

- *Physicians assisting patients to live as fully and normally as possible until death occurs from natural causes;*
- *Better training for physicians and nurses in appropriate management of pain and other distressing symptoms, e.g., the judicious use of opioids and sedatives with no intention to hasten or cause death;*
- *Provision of food and water, whether by mouth or medically assisted, as basic, ordinary care which is never withheld or withdrawn to hasten or cause death;*
- *Authentic compassion that seeks to alleviate patients' suffering and attend to their individual needs;*
- *Enabling disabled persons to participate in all areas of society by providing the social programs and support they need to achieve this goal;*
- *The same quality of care for all patients, i.e., no rationing or discrimination based on age, physical or mental condition, or ability to contribute;*
- *Educating people to understand and recognize the dangers facing the medically vulnerable;*
- *Encouraging people to protect and nurture those who are sick, disabled, or otherwise may be in danger of neglect, abuse, or imposed death;*
- *The right of every person, particularly those unable to defend themselves, to full protection under the law, from the first moment they are created, throughout life, until true death from natural causes.*



In short, we promote a climate of public opinion that recognizes the right of every human being to life, respect, compassionate care, appropriate medical treatment, and equality under the law.