End of Life Choice





Clarifying the context of euthanasia and assisted dying

The term 'euthanasia' is from the Greek, simply meaning a good death; a death which is peaceful and humane.

- Voluntary euthanasia a 'good death' brought about at the express wish of the patient: a personal and rational choice. Medication is prescribed and can be administered by a doctor or self administered.
- Voluntary assisted dying a 'good death' brought about at the express wish of
 the patient; a personal and rational choice. Medication is prescribed and either
 self administered or administered by a doctor if the person is unable to self
 administer.
- Palliative Sedation defined by the European Association for Palliative Care as 'the use of medications intended to induce a state of decreased or absent awareness (unconsciousness) in order to relieve the burden of otherwise intractable suffering in a manner that is ethically acceptable to the patient, family and health-care providers.'

 Palliative sedation can be a choice for patients within palliative care.
- Voluntary palliated starvation (VPS) a competent person refuses to eat or drink and receives palliative care to relieve any pain, suffering or symptoms she or he experiences from dying due to a lack of food and water.

In Australia patients currently are allowed to die slowly by palliative sedation and voluntary palliated starvation but they are denied choice for a quick and peaceful death through voluntary euthanasia or voluntary assisted dying.

Where is the compassion?

Reference: Queensland University of Technology (QUT) website "End of Life Law in Australia" https://end-of-life.qut.edu.au/euthanasia).



saves.asn.au

Compassion for suffering
The freedom to choose
Add your voice to the call



SAVES was established in 1983 to campaign for legal, medically assisted voluntary euthanasia. The aim is to end suffering by providing choice in dying. SAVES works in the community and with Members of Parliament to achieve law reform.

SAVE-YA Syndicated Australian Voluntary Euthanasia Youth Advocates

Facebook: Support SAVE-YA Law Reform

A national youth lobby group which aims to provide a youth



voice in support of legalising voluntary euthanasia in all States and Territories. Members between ages 18 and 35 are encouraged to join, make contact with their local MP and inform them of their support for voluntary euthanasia law reform.

Christians Supporting Choice For Voluntary Euthanasia christiansforve.org.au

We are Christians who believe that, as a demonstration of love and compassion, those with a terminal or hopeless illness should have the option of a pain-free, peaceful and dignified death with legal voluntary assisted dying / voluntary euthanasia. This is



strongly supported by the majority of Australian Christians.

South Australian Nurses Supporting Choices in Dying

facebook: SA Nurses Supporting Choices in Dying

We are a group of passionate nurses who believe in our patient's right to choose the end of life care they wish. The group provides a forum for the



nursing voice and perspective on legalising voluntary euthanasia and other patient choices in end of life care.

MY BODY MY Choice-VE

facebook.com/pages/MY-BODY-MY-Choice-VE

MBMC provides a voice for people with disability in the VE reform debate. MBMC represents the interests of people with disabilities who wish to exercise choice in all aspects of their

life, including choice at the end of life, with the view that choice and control are a fundamental human right for everyone.

MBMC argues that people with disabilities know how it feels to lose personal autonomy through their ongoing fight for self-determination, independent living and disability rights.



MBMC believes that people with disabilities, who have struggled to control their own lives and bodies, must be allowed to maintain control and autonomy throughout their life, especially at its end.

Doctors for Assisted Dying Choice

drs4assisteddyingchoice.org



We are a national organisation of Australian medical practitioners, both current and retired, who are committed to having a legal choice of providing information and assistance to rational adults, who, for reasons of no realistic chance of cure or relief from intolerable symptoms, would like to gently end their lives.

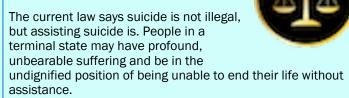
Assistance may be by doctor provision of medication for the patient to consume, or by doctor-administration.

Respecting rational patient end-of-life choices

Lawyers for Death with Dignity

saves.asn.au/lawyers

Lawyers for Death with Dignity acknowledges the need for people with profound suffering to have the legal choice for a medically assisted and dignified death.



Advances in medicine have improved life expectancy, but South Australian law has not changed to reflect the often forgotten deterioration in quality of life that a longer life expectancy may bring.

Paramedics Supporting Choices in Dying

facebook: Paramedics Supporting Choices in Dying



Paramedics Supporting Choices in Dying is an advocacy group promoting the rights of people to make decisions regarding their end of life wishes.

To go without pain, without trauma, without breaking the law, without endangering others and without suffering. To go gently, peacefully and with dignity.

We support good palliative care, encourage the use of Advance Care Directives and advocate for law reform to legalise the choice for voluntary euthanasia and voluntary assisted dying.