Newsletter 59 June 18 2018

### End of Life Choice





# Australians' views on Voluntary Euthanasia - latest scientific poll

- \* Numerous polls have been conducted over several decades in Australia over the choice for voluntary euthanasia.
- \* One scientific pollster, Roy Morgan, has posed the same question since 1962: If a hopelessly ill patient with no chance of recovering asks for a lethal dose should a doctor be allowed to give a lethal dose or not?
- \* In the latest poll conducted on 2nd November 2017 **85% of respondents answered YES**
- \* This reflects an upward trend over the 14 polls conducted since 1962 when support was 47%. Support was above 70% in the1990s 2012 saw 82.5% support
- \* Analysis by voting preference shows support of 81% from Liberal and National, 87% from ALP, 95% from Greens voters
- \* Michelle Levine CEO Roy Morgan Research stated Australians have overwhelmingly backed the right of doctors to administer lethal doses to patients in a result that supports the Victorian Government's euthanasia legislation recently passed by both houses of the Victorian Parliament.

**References:** Roy Morgan poll findings with analysis by age, gender, state and voting preference http://www.roymorgan.com/findings/7373-large-majority-of-australians-in-favour-of-euthanasia-201711100349

There are 15 jurisdictions around the world where voluntary euthanasia is legal.

187 million people have the choice of care and compassion at the end of life.



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



SAVES was established in 1983 to campaign for legal, medically assisted choice in end-of-life arrangements.

The aim is to relieve suffering by providing choice for people at the end of their life. 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 euthanasia. The overwhelming majority



of Australian Christians support choice for voluntary euthanasia.

# 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 Voluntary 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.

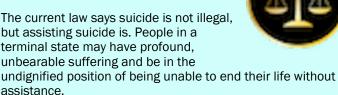
Assistance may be by doctor provision of medication for the patient to consume, or by doctor-administration.

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.

