

Submission into the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021

Submission No.: 1130
Submitted by: Name withheld
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Position: I/We support the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill
Comments in relation to: Other
Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

I have witnessed the heartache my best friend experienced when her grandmother was slowly dying. Her grandmother was a coherent mind trapped in a body that was deteriorating, and then a deteriorating mind trapped in a body that barely worked. She weighed 41kg at the time of her death. Her grandmother, while coherent, expressed many times her satisfaction with the life she had lived and that she was now ready to go. But her body just wouldn't give out. Her grandmother suffered through months of being trapped in a body that she could barely move before her mind started to go. And then in her lucid moments she knew she was no longer living her life and was devastated that she was still here and what she considered to be a burden to her family. She had been an outgoing and active person all her life.

I witnessed the traumatic effects of my Uncle dying from cancer and in such agony that the hospital could barely control his pain in the last couple of months of his life. He was begging the hospital staff and his wife to kill him as he couldn't handle the pain. This from a man who had previously suffered severe burns to his arm and chest. My Aunt was absolutely devastated that her husband was in so much pain and begging her to kill him. This experience was traumatic for the entire family, but especially for my Aunt and her three daughters.