

Submission on topic of euthanasia.

Under very specific circumstances and very strict boundaries, consensual euthanasia should be legalized and not criminalized.

On the basis of “the right to self autonomy”, a person’s wish to die should be respected within the set forth boundaries.

To assist this death ,either as assisted suicide or euthanasia ,should not be a criminal offence.

The circumstances and boundaries are to be established through rigorous consultation by experts in various disciplines.

While having full mental capacity,each person has a chance to clearly state their wishes in the eventuality of a loss of such capacity.

The abuse of laws can and will happen not because of the slippery-slope fallacy but because of individual lack of integrity and/or human imperfections.

The abuse cannot be prevented simply by not enacting laws that are designed to protect the integrity of the actor as well as the autonomy of the person acted upon.

If euthanasia is viewed as having the ‘intent to kill’ then this intent is preceded by an ‘ intent to be killed’ if the person’s request to die is respected and this in fact

May negate any criminal intent . The’ intent to kill’ differs only in words from ‘terminal sedation’. The ‘ premeditated termination of life’ is done by the patient not the doctor.

Definitions can be written to safeguard a person’s rights but also to define terms to such a degree that it becomes an exercise in semantics rather than reality.

“With dignity—intrinsic/extrinsic,as some may argue---“ is not the issue, nor are ‘having access to better palliative care’ or better pain control. These issues

Should be available as a universal right to all. Respect for self autonomy is more the issue.

Most people’s wishes are fulfilled as to their ‘after death arrangements’....is ‘ before death wishes’ less important? [Euthanasia is not all evil. We can respect people’s wishes to live as well as their wish to die.](#)

Thank you for considering the above comments.

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