



## Health Professionals Say No!

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The Ministerial Expert Panel on Voluntary Assisted Dying

PO Box 8172 Perth Business Centre PERTH WA 6849

[VADconsultations@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:VADconsultations@health.wa.gov.au)

Re: Response to the Western Australian MEP Paper on Voluntary Assisted Dying

I am writing on behalf of over 700 health care professionals concerned about the implications and effects of introducing euthanasia and physician assisted suicide to Australia on its citizens and to healthcare. Many of our net-work are from Western Australia. We welcome this opportunity to contribute our experience and evidence to this inquiry to voice our concerns and inform government in decisions and what is needed for appropriate care.

We hold this type of legislation is a most serious threat to the wellbeing and safe care of people with terminal illness, mental health problems and to those with severe, chronic and disabling conditions, who may feel they have become a burden to others, and not that it should be part of health care agendas in provision of services to these individuals. We have tried to respond to questions in your paper in an informative manner.

We also hold that Government focus should be on the compassionate and equitable provision of Social Services, Health Care and Palliative Care toward maintaining and protecting the dignity and lives of those with illness, age or disablement. There is still much to be done to address social, medical, palliative care and mental health service inequity in our society, especially so in regional Australia.

We hope to constructively contribute positively to your enquiry and welcome contact with you to assist with any further information or clarification you would require for our comments and opinions.

Yours Sincerely

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