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To: [LA VAD](#)
Subject: Submission to the NT Parliamentary Inquiry into Voluntary Assisted Dying
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Submission to the NT Parliamentary Inquiry into Voluntary Assisted Dying

Dear Committee

I have read through a number of the other submissions and the arguments for and against the introduction of VAD.

Those in favour of VAD all highlight the pain and suffering some people endure. I get it. I've seen loved ones suffer also. It's heart-rending. It's traumatic. It has a deep affect on the sufferer and their friends and family. I've been there.

Voluntary Assisted Suicide (VAS), Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD), call it whatever you want, it doesn't change the fact it's killing. God said "Thou shall not kill." [Exodus 20:13 KJV]

All life is precious and valued in God's eyes and our times are in His hands.

I oppose the legislating of VAD for the following reasons:

It's just wrong. It's killing; it's murder. That's against the law. Just because other jurisdictions are doing it doesn't mean the NT should.

It's open to abuse. How can you ever be really sure it's voluntary and not coerced. There is no safe way to implement VAD.

It raises very serious moral and ethical questions for our medical staff. Would you want to be the one to administer, or even hand over the lethal drugs? No one should be expected to perform a medical procedure that goes against their moral and ethical beliefs.

I urge the Committee not to recommend drafting of VAD legislation.

As others have suggested, we should instead focus resources on delivering the best compassionate palliative care for our vulnerable and terminally unwell community members.

Jenny Holland