

# 10 QUICK REASONS FOR OPPOSING THE LEGALIZATION OF ASSISTED SUICIDE

## INCOMPATIBLE WITH GOOD

Legalization of assisted suicide conflicts with a good government, which is to protect the lives of all people, in particular those vulnerable due to age, illness, poverty, disability, etc.

## ELDER ABUSE

Assisted suicide laws are not written to prevent abuse, specifically toward the elderly.

## DUTY TO DIE

Assisted suicide laws lead to a “duty to die” mentality. Concerns about healthcare costs or fear of being a burden to others may put pressure on patients to request lethal drugs.

## BAD MEDICINE

Assisted suicide is bad medicine. It is inconsistent with the role of the physician as a healer. Often the best medicine a doctor can offer is hope. When patients are offered assisted suicide, hope is taken away from them.

## DOCTORS MAKE MISTAKES

No one, not even doctors, can predict a person's life-expectancy with certainty. Some patients who are given terminal diagnosis recover.

## FINANCIAL AGENDAS

Financial interests are often behind assisted suicide laws. Legalization of assisted suicide puts poor and elderly people at risk.

## A FALSE SOLUTION

Legalizing assisted suicide gives societal approval to suicide and teaches that suicide is an acceptable solution to human problems, thereby undermining the efforts of suicide prevention. As positioned by The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline Network, “we see suicide never being a solution to any problem due to the permanent forfeiture of the victim's future.”

## COOPERATIVE PRESSURE

Doctors and nurses may find themselves under pressure to cooperate in their patients' suicides.

## IT IS UNNECESSARY

The argument that assisted suicide is necessary to relieve unbearable pain and suffering is not tenable. If someone is suffering from great pain, they do not need suicide, they need a new doctor. One who is an expert in managing pain and symptoms.

Assisted suicide laws remove the incentive for continued medical research, esp. in the area of pain control.

## DIGNITY & COMPASSION

Human beings, including those with life-threatening illnesses and disabilities, have dignity and need our compassion. Assisted suicide is neither dignified nor compassionate. Seriously ill or disabled people require love, inclusion, and medical care that values their lives, not hastens their death.

*The principles of respect for human life at its most vulnerable are the duty to care for one another and to relieve suffering to the very end of life and the inalienable right to life are*

**UNCHANGING NORMS FOR A  
TRULY CIVILIZED SOCIETY.**