End of Life Assistance (Scotland) Bill

Carole Cannon

I strenuously oppose this End of Life Bill. It is fraught with dangers and cannot be allowed to proceed. Hard cases have never made for good legislation.

Take the little girl who had major health problems and who refused to have a heart transplant. She was cited as a potential for assisted dying and yet she eventually changed her mind about her decision and underwent further surgery.

The teenager who had suffered horrific injuries in a rugby game should have been given counselling because he was obviously in a deep depression as a result of his injury.

In my own case my mother was diagnosed with lung cancer which had spread to the bones. In spite of wonderful care from St John's Hospital, Livingston there were days when she cried out for her life to be over. However once the increased medication was applied she enjoyed another chapter in her life. At no time did my sister or I even consider killing her in spite of the trauma we went through seeing her suffer. We now have some lovely memories of the happy spells of the end of her life.

We need to put our efforts and finances into improved palliative care and not inflicting death on the vulnerable in our society. As with the abortion bill - what started out as a last resort for women is now given on demand, the same will happen to this End of Life Choice. We will end up having sick and vulnerable people being pressurised to end their lives.

I really do wonder why my Dad risked his life in the desert helping to rid the world of the evil of the Nazi regime when now in Britain we are trying to emulate a lot of their ideas. Everyone has a right to life and parliament cannot ignore Christian principles and remove that right.

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