End of Life Assistance (Scotland) Bill

Barbara Devoti

I am writing regarding the unbelievable proposed Bill regarding assisted suicide forwarded by Ms Margo McDonald. Normally one to sit back and let world events pass by I feel that this is an issue so repulsing that to say nothing would be as those who stayed silent during the Nazi atrocities. My concerns are heightened by a seeming media trend to champion those who seek to end their own lives such as the recent David Dimbleby lecture and the celebrations over the Purdy case.

Firstly it is the deliberate killing of innocent human beings - a violation of the right to life. Of late there seems to be an erred and arrogant assumption that we have the right to determine the day of our deaths.

Secondly it is contrary to medical ethics, putting doctors in the role of killers is unthinkable. It also naively assumes that human beings are essentially good and no one would purposely seek to make money out of others deaths. Sadly this faith in human nature is delusional, as we have all seen the suffering that human beings inflict upon each other.

Finally it assumes that the lives of the gravely ill and disabled are of less value than the lives of others. Each life on earth is of immeasurable value and no one is qualified to judge.

I appeal to you to please oppose any bills that threaten human life and instead promote agendas of care and compassion for life that is so precious.

Barbara Devoti
13 March 2010