I am writing to say that I am against the End of Life Assistance (Scotland) Bill which has been introduced by Margo Macdonald.

I am concerned that if society accepts assisted suicide or euthanasia it means that some lives no longer have any meaning, value or worth. It is claimed that the Bill is intended to 'enable a person to die with dignity and a minimum of distress'. However this is already provided through good health care and particularly palliative medicine.

Also the scope of this Bill is unbelievably wide. It would offer assisted suicide to people who are to some degree dependent on others. This could include those with non-threatening disabilities and those with relatively common conditions who have a degree of dependency on others. Vulnerable and old people would be especially at risk.

In recent years the will of both the Scottish and Westminster Parliaments has been clearly expressed as opposed to assisted suicide on several occasions. I sincerely hope that it will remain that way.

Elma J W Young (Mrs)

23/04/2010