End of Life Assistance (Scotland) Bill

Alex Duncan

I must strongly oppose any attempt to introduce the Bill concerning assisted suicide and Euthanasia. I feel that it is fundamentally flawed and has little regard for the basic rights of human beings in our society or culture where I believe that the individuals concerned as sad a situation as they may be in deserve the dignity of having their lives end by palliative care by persons who are both sympathetic and qualified to create the importance of life within their minds. Life should not be ended by persons for selfish, lack of patience or cost related reasons.

The Bill proposes a rupture from the legal protection that has been given to all people from being intentionally killed.

It is fundamentally discriminatory by identify particular groups who can be candidates to have their lives ended. That would be extremely dangerous and have far reaching consequences for other avenues such as insanity partial or long term.

It will create the impression that some people are right to want to die. There are many times when I would wish for the ease of pain for loved ones today and tomorrow things look much better. Terminally ill people should never be made to feel a burden on those who care for them. Love for those terminally can be a tremendous pressure to bear but if incapably to give willingly should seek that care from those qualified without the feeling of guilt. It will make some people feel a burden for not choosing to die.

It will permit children of 16 years of age to request to die. How crazy and immoral would that be to create a precedent that would all too easily be exploited. Young people are all too easily disturbed by the pressure that inhibit their lives. How often do we hear of young people taking their lives over family, perhaps exam or peer pressures etc. That is society's failings not theirs.

It has no conscious clause to permit doctors and medical staff to refuse to participate in these procedures. Some doctors are morally intentioned to save life not destroy life.

I sincerely hope that my thoughts are taken seriously.

Alex Duncan
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