End of Life Assistance (Scotland) Bill

Dr Lucy Ault

I am writing, as a Christian psychiatrist, to voice my objection towards the End of Life Assistance bill currently being proposed in the Scottish Parliament. I object to a doctor's role changing from one of trying to preserve life, and improve it's quality, to one of assessing who has capacity to decide to end their life let alone being involved in actively killing them.

The Scottish Parliament has taken some brave steps along the road to improving the nation’s health. The early introduction of anti-smoking legislation in Scotland has been fantastic and the consideration of minimum pricing for alcohol is also likely to have a good effect on social and health problems that, as a doctor, I deal with on a daily basis in my working life. I would rather see Scotland leading the way in research and funding into first class end of life and palliative care, as well as improving the social circumstances of those who are struggling with illness and currently see no alternative to ending their lives, rather than leading the way in legalizing euthanasia.

Dr. Lucy Ault
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