End of Life Assistance (Scotland) Bill

Malcolm Garden

Dear committee members - just a quick email to let you know how strongly opposed I am to changing the law as regards assisted suicide and euthanasia. One of my former friends and colleagues went to the Dignitas clinic in Switzerland to 'die' - the whole process was absolutely horrendous as far as I was concerned (for his 'dignity', his family, his friends etc. etc.). I hope you are aware of the potential for you getting this decision horribly wrong; and I wonder how many of you have studied the ethics and implications of this in sufficient depth. Surely we should be embracing a culture of life rather than a culture of death in this country. We should work on palliative care, supporting the weak and vulnerable etc.

Please think long and hard about your decision; and do not change the current law.

Malcolm Garden
7 May 2010