End of Life Assistance (Scotland) Bill

Stewart Raeburn

I do not agree with legislation that requires a doctor to compromise on his personal and professional standards to assist a patient to take his or her own life. That patient has his or her choice. A doctor has his or her own responsibility to treat disease and to prolong life. I would be compromising my medical ethics and my Christian ethics, to do otherwise. I concur with a recent article in the British Medical Newsletter, from an experienced palliative consultant, that to assist suicide in patients would be a dangerous development. It would be helpful if doctors could be polled for their opinion in this matter, as a matter of discussion and of courtesy, if he or she is expected to have a role in this proposal.

Stewart Raeburn
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