End of Life Assistance (Scotland) Bill

Anonymous

In life there is pain and suffering. It doesn’t matter if you have just popped out the womb or you have one foot in the grave.

Some suffering can be helpful, e.g. your nerve tells your brain by means of pain that your leg is about to fall off, this is part of a useful system brought about by the laws of nature and I didn’t invent the laws of nature but I'm really glad that they are there.

I'm really glad that I exist and in as much as I have children and I would be really glad to continue existing to assist them in the stages of their future life. My brother unfortunately died at the age of 39 yrs from stomach cancer and as a result his children, especially the boys had difficulties in their teenage life. Aspects of these difficulties certainly would have been dealt with readily if my brother's presence had been there and if he had had the possibility of surviving with pain, he most certainly would have, almost joyfully would have.

I don't know who invented the laws of nature and thereby life but I do know it certainly wasn't me.

I am not masochistic but I have a friend who has suffered severe MS for the last 25 years and well nursed by her married sister and she has no intention or even considered taking her life even though she can't move a hair that may be annoying or tickling her nose. She still enjoys this limited life and she is loved a lot.

From this perspective I can only assume that a person feels they are of no assistance to anyone else, either emotionally, lovingly, encouragingly or physically or elicit love from another and maybe don't like to be dependent on another. It may be that they don't want to waste another person's time or energy but in reality it's the other persons' time and energy. It maybe a good thing for them to experience this type of care from another person especially before they die.

Obviously at times people are kept alive by extreme measures, not to mention the costs. Ethically this is not necessary; a natural death is a part of our life cycle. There is a natural time to die.

Assisted suicide is not a natural death and one would question the desire of someone who wants to get another person involved in their suicide. Is it possible that they haven’t considered the other people involved in their desire and see only their own plight of pain? What about the pain of the person who has to get involved in assisting them. If they want to commit suicide and still have the capacity to reason and the mobility to pop some pills, let them do it, even though I don't agree with it, but don't involve others in what objectively would seem an act of cowardice.
P.s. Never mind the unnecessary costs to the taxpayer who is a stakeholder in this Government funded process. Decisions are being foisted onto many people because they can't or won't do it. Psychologically, emotionally, lovingly, pain can make us grow; it's not necessarily and only destructive.

Best of Luck Guys, There's a lot of responsibility and risk factors in this decision making process.

Anonymous
8 May 2010