End of Life Assistance (Scotland) Bill

Kemnay Parish Church of Scotland

At a recent meeting of our Kirk Session the above Bill was discussed and we unanimously agreed that we should write to you urging you not to pass this Bill.

We support the Church of Scotland view which ‘welcomes all efforts to improve the quality of care available to all Scotland’s citizens’. As a Church we believe that all life is important and it is our duty to show care and compassion on all who are suffering and to seek ways to improve that care.

We cannot agree with the proposed End of Life Choices (Scotland) Bill being brought to the Scottish Parliament by MSP Margo MacDonald. We believe it would put those in a very vulnerable position in danger. Indeed the whole approach in this Bill is flawed since what is proposed would result in healthcare staff being called upon to deliberately terminate life; such legislation represents a seismic shift in the relationship between carer and patient.

A major concern is that any legislation allowing the deliberate killing of another person would be a means of saving resources and that anyone be seen as a burden to society.

Deliberate killing in name of mercy or compassion surely sends the wrong message to our society.

We would urge you not to sign the proposed End of Life Choices Bill.

In the name of Kemnay Parish Church of Scotland Kirk Session

Linda R Duguid               Rev John P Renton BA LTh
Session Clerk                Kemnay Church

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