31st March 10

The End of Life Assistance Bill Committee,
The Scottish Parliament,
Edinburgh,
EH99 1SP.

Dear Sirs,

I am concerned about this bill that Margo Macdonald, MSP has introduced into the Scottish Parliament and wish to mention reasons why I oppose the Bill.

If this bill were to be passed it would open the door to all sorts of abuse that would never have been anticipated. Like the abortion bill it would open up a ‘whole can of worms’ so to speak.

It would mean that many lives would not be considered valuable or of any worth, especially disabled people
and the frail and elderly who would be put under great pressure to end their lives after for the convenience of others.

The Abortion Bill was brought in with the best intentions and the promise of safeguards being put in place. No one could have foreseen the implications of this Bill and the now number of abortions that have taken place needlessly, the taking of life in the womb because they are an inconvenience.

My mother and husband both died with dignity without resulting in any form of assisting them, there needs to be more palliative care and hospices.

Both the Scottish and Westminster Parliament have been opposed to assisted suicide in recent years. Gordon Brown himself said he would oppose assisted suicide. Thus I do not see the need for this bill and oppose it.
Professional medical bodies and the British Medical Association do not support this bill and thus assisted suicide.

I thus oppose this bill myself and hope it will never become law.

Yours sincerely,

Moira Kerr