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

Dear committee members,

I write to express my grave concern about this bill. I fear its wide implications for Scottish society for generations to come. Indeed, if it were passed, it may be impossible to ever reverse the very negative impact on society that would gradually ensue.

My objections are:
1) That an increasing number of frail, vulnerable people who are not totally independent would feel they do not matter any more and thus have a duty to ask for assistance to die.
2) There would almost certainly develop in society an attitude to such people that they are a burden. Over the centuries, society has benefited from a growing recognition of each person's dignity and right to life. That are, in my opinion, inadequate safeguards to prevent this erosion.
3) Doctors would be obliged to provide this assistance to die. No provision has been made for them to opt out on grounds of conscience.

I beg you to give this bill serious consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Frances Webster