Dear Joanne Lamont,

I am deeply concerned about the implications of the End of life assistance (Scotland) proposed by M.S.P. Margo MacDonald. I believe the bill should be rejected because:

1. It is contrary to good medical practice. Doctors take an oath to save lives. This bill will encourage them to end life.

2. The bill will lead elderly, sick and disabled people to believe they are a burden on society. The proposers of this bill should know that there are many ordinary caring people who are willing to help the less fortunate.

3. The bill is being presented to cater for a tiny minority of people against the majority. Is this democratic. Committing suicide is a deeply personal consideration and each individual has the right to decide on this course of action. If they are terminally ill or fit any criteria for assisted suicide they have the option of ending their lives at any time before they reach the stage when they need assistance.

4. The bill could be used as easy low cost alternative to good health care.

I watched my own brother die a very painful death but he was given excellent medical attention in the dying stages of his life. He was in terrible pain but he never once said he wanted help to die. The death was with dignity surrounded by people who loved him.

Please reject this bill to protect the most vulnerable members of our society.

Yours under Obligation,

J Murphy