

I oppose Bill C-7 and the expansion of euthanasia, the expansion of Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD).

I ask the government of Canada to please reject Bill C-7 and begin the promised five-year review of the euthanasia law with an open view to what is actually happening rather than continuing to expand euthanasia, making Canada the most permissive euthanasia regime in the world.

Canada does not need more Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD).

Canada needs more palliative care, more hospices, and more hospice care,

- NOT more MAiD.

There is a difference between killing people and letting them die.

It is sad but unsurprising that Canada makes no use of the Hippocratic Oath, or “First do no harm”, or “I will abstain from all intentional wrong-doing and harm.”

The current MAiD guidelines at least contain some safeguards to help prevent the killing of incompetent and/or vulnerable people;

- Bill C-7 seeks to remove at least some of these current safeguards.

Bill C-7 permits a doctor or nurse practitioner to lethally inject an incompetent person who was previously approved for euthanasia. This contravenes the Supreme Court of Canada Carter decision where it was stated that only competent people could die by MAiD.

Bill C-7 also waives the ten-day waiting for people who are deemed to be “terminally ill.” Therefore, a person could request death by euthanasia on a bad day and die by lethal injection the same day. Studies prove that the “will to live” fluctuates over time.

Bill C-7 claims to prevent euthanasia for people with mental illness. Canada’s euthanasia legislation permits death by lethal injection for people who are physically or psychologically suffering. Originally, the legislation required that a person be “terminally ill”. Therefore, a person could not legally die by euthanasia for psychological reasons alone.

With the terminal illness requirement removed, euthanasia can be allowed for “physical or psychological suffering that is intolerable to them and that cannot be relieved under conditions that they consider acceptable.” Mental illness, which is not defined in the law, is a form of psychological suffering. Bill C-7 falsely claims to prevent euthanasia for mental illness.