

To: Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights

From: Bernice Wubs

I am writing to you, members of the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights, as this week Bill C-7 (medical assistance in dying) is being reviewed by this committee.

I am opposed to the expansion of euthanasia because expanding euthanasia and assisted suicide sends a message to suffering Canadians that suicide is a solution to suffering.

I believe that treating everyone equally, without able-ism or age-ism, means offering suicide prevention and supportive care for everyone with equal enthusiasm. Expanding assisted suicide, on the other hand, encourages a culture of neglect for suffering, elderly, disabled, and other vulnerable people and devalues their lives.

As you study this in committee, I have three requests or recommendations that I would really appreciate you consider:

- 1 **Please oppose** Bill C-7's proposed expansion of assisted suicide beyond the end-of-life context, which would make assisted suicide available to persons with disabilities and chronic but non-fatal illnesses.
- 2 **Please oppose** Bill C-7's legalization of "written arrangements" to waive consent once one has lost capacity to give consent, which gives MAID doctors discretion to kill a person who cannot consent at the time of death.
- 3 **Please amend** Bill C-7 to make it very clear that a doctor may never suggest MAiD to a patient, but rather that any request for information about MAid can only be made by the patient themselves.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my concerns. I hope that you will take them to heart and share them with your colleagues within your party.

Thank you for your work on behalf of all Canadians.