

PROLIFE FACTS

A new website highlights some of the record 16000 submissions Parliament's Health Committee received opposing the legalisation of assisted suicide. See www.16000voices.org.nz for short videos of kiwis explaining their reasons for opposing assisted suicide in their own words.

For example, a man who was paralysed in a car accident wrote that, if euthanasia would be legalised, the 'right to die' could become the 'duty to die' in order to save money: "We live in a society which valorises the 'able-body' and 'able-mind' to the extent that to be disabled in any way – physically, senses, intellectually, cognitively – is to be highly devalued to the extent that it is better to be "dead than disabled".

"Under these conditions it would be murderous to sanction euthanasia and assisted suicide for anyone, let alone disabled people."

"What disabled and vulnerable people need is not euthanasia or assisted suicide when they are ill, but the knowledge that good palliative care that focuses on their physical, emotional, social, cultural and spiritual needs is readily available. We need a law that states unambiguously that we are of value and that all District Health Boards are to be funded adequately for palliative care services."

16000Voices is also on Facebook and Twitter.

Please contact info@16000voices.nz for more information on this issue.

Half page
95 x 128.5

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Quarter page
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