



Euthanasia Prevention Coalition

Dear Friend,

July 13, 2021

For many people, summer is a time for vacation, or a break from work, but the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition (EPC) does not take time off from protecting vulnerable people from euthanasia and assisted suicide. I was recently asked to give an online presentation for a national Australian group. We are working with a group that is committed to defeating the assisted suicide bill in Ireland. We are editing our response to the Canadian parliamentary committee that is examining further expansions to the euthanasia (MAiD) law. Our collaboration with many national and international individuals and groups does not stop for summer break.



Alex Schadenberg

Sadly, a woman known as “Madeline” has been approved for euthanasia because she cannot afford the care that she needs for her medical condition. “Madeline” says that she does not want to die by euthanasia but she is being forced to “beg for her life”. Her medical condition requires certain foods and nutritional supplements that are not covered by the government and that she cannot afford.

The family of Joan Rohoway, who is dying in Surrey, BC, was recently threatened with removing their legal right to care for their mother (Joan) because the family opposes euthanasia. An Oncologist said that Joan asked for euthanasia during their discussion about treatment options. Joan’s family stated that she does not support the concept of euthanasia and she was heavily sedated during the conversation with the Oncologist. Two Fraser Health Authority (FHA) workers threatened to remove legal guardianship if the family did not permit euthanasia. A few days later, when asked by other health workers about “MAiD” Joan responded, “absolutely not, I want to stay here” (with family).

The 2020 Health Canada euthanasia (MAiD) report ([click here to access the Second Annual Report](#)) shows that euthanasia is out of control in the country and Bill C-7 only made it worse. The report indicates that there were 7,595 reported assisted deaths in Canada, representing 2.5% of all deaths. It is not a surprise that Joan Rohoway and “Madeline” are both from British Columbia, where 4% of all deaths were from euthanasia.

The report also indicates that more than 1,400 people listed loneliness and isolation as their reason for asking for euthanasia. The two most common reasons people asked to be killed by (MAiD) were loss of ability to engage in meaningful life activities and loss of ability to perform activities of daily living. These are disability-related concerns, underlining the reality that pain is not the primary reason people ask to be killed.

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We are regularly contacted by people with concerns about euthanasia, assisted suicide and end-of-life medical decisions. Recently, I spoke to a long-time supporter who wanted to talk about the treatment decisions that were made for his elderly father. **These are difficult conversations.** The best way to protect you and your family is by purchasing the [*Life Protecting Power of Attorney for Personal Care*](#).

If you have questions, concerns and/or a story about a family member or friend being pressured to consider euthanasia, assisted suicide or questionable end-of-life medical decisions, call the [Compassionate Community Care](#) (CCC) helpline: 1-855-675-8749.



Scotland and Ireland are preparing to debate the legalization of assisted suicide while a government committee in the British island of Jersey recommended the legalization of assisted suicide. Scottish and Irish medical groups oppose assisted suicide while Irish psychiatrists stated that, based on the Canadian experience, legalizing assisted dying will lead to killing people with mental illness because limiting it to physical conditions will be deemed discriminatory.

I am regularly consulted by groups and individuals from around the world who oppose euthanasia. The EPC blog (www.epcblog.org) is the world's largest source of articles and information on euthanasia and assisted suicide. It contains almost 4,500 articles.

The EPC is currently reviewing our activities with the goal of affecting the wider culture. It has always been our goal to challenge the narrative and influence the way people think about euthanasia and assisted suicide.

We need you, our supporters, to enable us to be an effective voice. What EPC needs more than ever right now is for you to become a monthly or regular donor. The average monthly donor gives \$25 to \$35 per month. Monthly donors are our life-blood; they enable us to plan and continue our work. Also, please consider naming us in your estate. I noticed that the euthanasia lobby receives most of its larger donations from people who have passed away. Call our office at 1-877-439-3348 or email info@epcc.ca

[You can donate online at this link.](#)

Thank you for your continued support,

Alex Schadenberg, Executive Director