



Euthanasia Prevention Coalition

Dear Friends,

July 27, 2018

Recently I wrote a disturbing article about the recent Belgian euthanasia statistics reporting that euthanasia deaths had increased by 14% (2309) in 2017. The report included a new category of deaths based on people who were not terminally ill but living with chronic conditions related to disability or becoming elderly. Sadly, the Belgian people have bought into the euthanasia mentality. We need to prevent the same from occurring here.

Canadian euthanasia deaths increase by 30% in the second half of 2017

The data from the Third Interim Report on Medical Assistance in Dying, recently released by Health Canada, stated that there were 1525 reported assisted deaths (up by 30%) in the second half of 2017. According to the report there have been 3714 total assisted deaths in Canada from legalization until December 31, 2017.

The *Fatal Flaws* film, that was released in May, undercuts the lethal flaws of the death movement by interviewing leaders of the death lobby and juxtaposing those interviews from people with personal assisted death stories.

***Fatal Flaws* - A great success.**

Kevin Dunn, the producer of *Fatal Flaws*, went to Guernsey to screen the film while the Guernsey legislature was debating assisted suicide. One of the sponsors of the Guernsey assisted suicide bill attended the screening of *Fatal Flaws*. The next day he told the legislature that he saw the *Fatal Flaws* film and changed his mind on assisted suicide. The assisted suicide bill was defeated by a 24 to 14 vote.

Since its release EPC has sold more than 800 copies of *Fatal Flaws*. But most importantly there have been many screenings of the film. This fall we need you or your group to screen the *Fatal Flaws* film in your community. We also produced the *Fatal Flaws* pamphlet to re-enforce the message of the film.

If you have not ordered the *Fatal Flaws* film or pamphlets, please do so soon. We need you to share this message. The donation card will enable you to order the film and pamphlets. For bulk orders call EPC at: 1-877-439-3348.

Protect Conscience Rights for Health Professionals in Ontario

A few weeks ago, the new Ontario government announced several legislative initiatives, but those announcements did not include conscience rights for health professionals. EPC reacted to the announcements by launching an online petition campaign to urge the Ontario government to protect conscience rights for health professionals.

We have sent Ontario contacts a conscience rights response card (in this mailing) to be sent to Premier Doug Ford. **A regular stamp is required on the response card.** We urge everyone to call the Premier's office at: 416-325-1941.

California Assisted Suicide court case.

The status of the California assisted suicide law has become more complicated. On May 15, Judge Daniel Ottolia decided that the California assisted suicide law was unconstitutionally enacted when California passed the assisted suicide law in a special session dedicated to health care funding in 2016.

California's Attorney General (AG) appealed the decision to the District Court of Appeal who then upheld Judge Ottolia's decision. The AG went back to the District Court of Appeal to request a stay of the decision until a higher court can decide. On June 15, the 4 District Court of Appeal stayed the decision and permitted assisted suicide.

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As confusing as it sounds, the courts have decided that the California assisted suicide law was unconstitutionally enacted but the assisted suicide law is permitted to remain in place, for now, until a higher court decides the issue.

This has become a “David vs Goliath case. Life Legal Defense Foundation, who successfully challenged California’s assisted suicide law, faces the resources of the California AG as they work to protect people from assisted suicide.

Robert Latimer asks Canada’s Minister of Justice to pardon him for killing his daughter Tracy.

Many of you will remember the Latimer case. On October 24, 1993, Robert Latimer killed his daughter Tracy, who lived with Cerebral Palsy, by gassing her in the cab of his truck. Latimer requested a pardon based on the fact that euthanasia is now legal in Canada and because the federal government is considering extending euthanasia to children.

Latimer used the defence of necessity by stating that it was the only way that he could stop his daughter’s suffering. The facts of the case differ from the media reports. During the trial, the EA from the school that Tracy attended said that she was not constantly suffering and her mother’s diary referred to Tracy as a happy girl who was doing well.

Robert Latimer has been free since 2010. Pardoning him would remove the criminal conviction from his record.

I have been shocked by the number of our online supporters who stated that they support pardoning Robert Latimer.

Canadian Association of Retired Persons (CARP) promotes euthanasia and attacks palliative care.

Wanda Morris, the CARP VP of Advocacy and the former CEO of the euthanasia lobby group, Dying with Dignity, wrote an article attacking palliative care practitioners and organizations who refuse to assist the death of their patients. Morris accuses hospices, palliative care practitioners, and other health care practitioners as “causing harm” to their patients by preventing patients from accessing an “assisted death.”

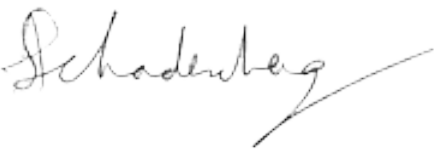
This is not the first time that CARP has promoted euthanasia. **We are asking you to boycott CARP.**

Good News: Germany’s Health Minister announced that they will refuse prescriptions for euthanasia drugs. The letter from the Ministry of Health stated that: *it is not the task of the state to actively support suicidal acts.*

If you have not done so, we need you to purchase the Fatal Flaws film and pamphlets and organize a screening this fall. It is one thing for EPC to invest \$250,000 to produce this powerful and convincing film, **but it needs to be seen.**

Summer is a difficult time for EPC. People go on vacation, donations always drop but our work to prevent euthanasia continues. This is why we need more people to become regular/monthly donors. We also need your support to pay off our \$30,000 debt that we incurred in the production of the film. Donations of any amount will make a difference.

EPC is making a difference. Thank you for your continued support.



Alex Schadenberg - Executive Director

Plan to attend The EPC National Symposium on October 27 at the Best Western Winnipeg Airport Hotel.