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MIMER MEDICAL COLLEGE

Euthanasia : Court Judgements regarding  
euthanasia in INDIA  
Arguments FOR and AGAINST euthanasia

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# JUDGEMENT REGARDING EUTHANASIA IN INDIA

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- ❑ Section 309 should be deleted from penal code as there is nothing that can hold back those who want to end their lives due to some reason or the other .
- ❑ Those who survive an attempt to commit suicide are mentally and emotionally distressed and require medical and psychological help rather than punishment .
- ❑ passive euthanasia and physician assisted suicide should be legalized as recommended by 241<sup>st</sup> law commission.

❑ Advance healthcare directives and the facility of living will should be provided to citizens in INDIA . Through living will a person would be able to easily specify his or her decision in relation to the treatment administered to him and will thus be able to make an informed consent regarding the same.

❑ Like United States, living wills should be made a legal document in INDIA, that is, enforceable in the court of law. It should be signed in the presence of a qualified physician and should be attested by a Lawyer

In order to counter the misuse of euthanasia option by relatives of near kin or even the doctors for that matter, a euthanasia panel may be set up comprising of skilled doctors , lawyer and a representative from the government who can give proper decision on case to case basis

- ❑ If a person is no longer in the position to give an informed consent for euthanasia, the legal guardian or near and dear ones and family members should decide on his behalf and in their absence, the matter should go to the court.
- ❑ Every person who has a right to life should also have a universal right to relief from pain and suffering.



# **WHAT ARE THE ARGUMENTS FOR AND AGAINST EUTHANASIA?**

## **ARGUMENTS FOR**

- Euthanasia provides a way to relieve extreme pain.
- Euthanasia provides a way to relief when a person's quality of life is low.
- People should not be forced to stay alive.
- Euthanasia frees up medical funds to help other people.

- It is another case of freedom of choice – the right to commit suicide.
- Organs can be put to good use.
- Speedy termination of physical and emotional suffering.
- Relieve mental suffering for the patient and his relatives



# ARGUMENTS AGAINST

- Euthanasia demands and devalues the sanctity of human life.
- Euthanasia will become non-voluntary.
- Euthanasia can become a means of health care cost containment.
- Euthanasia would not only be for people who are terminally ill.
- It amounts to murder and it is only god who can take away human life.

- All irreversible damage.
- It destroys life, which has potential that could be yet unknown to the patient, doctor or the family members.
- It discourages scientists who are looking for cure for incurable ailments.

**THANK YOU**

