



EUTHANASIA

Glossary

euthanasia	touchy	a thorny issue
particularly	to raise a question	mercy
compassionate killing	to carry out	knowingly
the least	painfully	in other words
to elaborate	to feed, fed, fed	a tube
to linger	brain-dead	terminally ill
intractable	aggressive therapy	as far as someone is concerned
to relieve	hasten	insure
to get lost	besides	to state
to revive	they do not resuscitate order	the will
a flicker of hope	a recovery	to make a recovery
aware	life-sustaining treatment	to terminate
elderly	disabled	to voice an opinion
to voice a concern	to withdraw	to put out of misery
ultimately	in one's stead	how come
ludicrous	to frown upon	to prevail
for the sake of it	end-of-life care	to grant

INTRODUCING YOUR POINT OF VIEW

Please Make Use Of These Useful Phrases When You Wish To Express Your Opinion On A Matter

I think	I consider	I find
I feel	I believe	I suppose
I assume that	in my opinion	as far as I'm concerned
for my part	from my point of view	my view
my opinion	my belief is that	I would say that
my impression is that	I have the feeling that	it seems to me that
I have no doubt that	I am sure	I'm certain that

And now a dialogue between Wentworth and Sarah...

Euthanasia

Wentworth: The next subject is very touchy, kind of a thorny issue. Some of you may be able to relate, especially if the question has been raised while you have had relatives in poor health. I guess you all heard about euthanasia. Can someone please define the term for me?



- Sarah: Euthanasia is mercy or compassionate killing.
- Wentworth: What do you mean?
- Sarah: When someone carries out euthanasia, they knowingly let someone die in the least painful way. In other words, it is supposedly the deliberate killing of a person for the benefit of that person.
- Wentworth: Can you elaborate?
- Sarah: Some people are force-fed through a tube or they have fallen into an irreversible coma and lingered in a vegetative state for a long period of time. They need mechanical supports such as a respirator, for instance, they're brain-dead, terminally ill or worse.
- Wentworth: What could be worse?
- Sarah: Being fully conscious and suffering unbearable pain, or even worse, intractable pain. Their family wants to keep them alive and keep providing them aggressive therapy.
- Wentworth: As far as you're concerned, Sarah, what do you think of euthanasia?
- Sarah: It's hard to have a firm opinion on such a matter. I think if I were old, I'd rather my family relieved my pain and hastened my death.
- Wentworth: How can you ensure people follow such a request?
- Sarah: I always have my organ donor card in my pocket. If I had a fatal crash or accident and it get lost, the hospital would definitely ask for my health card, which would also show that my wish was to donate my organs. Besides, I have clearly stated to my friends and family, I did not want to be revived if something really bad happened to me. "Do not resuscitate Sarah Mandy Agha." I think doctors should remember that prolonging life at all costs is wrong, especially against the patient's will, when there is no flicker of hope they could make a recovery. I think this is cruel, especially to the patient who are well aware of their own condition and can't wait for their life-sustaining treatment to be terminated.
- Wentworth: I agree on you on that point. I believe we shall have the right to choose when and how to die. A lot of elderly as well as disabled people voiced their opinions and concerns regarding doctor-assisted suicide. Withdrawn treatment can put patients out of misery, even if that means they are going to die. At some point, sooner or later, we all die.
- Sarah: Ultimately, I think no one wants someone else to choose in their stead. You choose the way you live. How come you couldn't be able to choose the way you die? This is ludicrous. Dying decently or according to your own standards shouldn't be frowned upon. Your opinion should prevail because this is a personal matter; you're the one involved. It is a legitimate request from people who no longer want to live or be forced to live for the sake of it. And anyway, I do believe that at some point, end of life care bears this meaning, "For those who don't or will



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no longer recognize who they are, if they're terminally ill, they should still be granted consideration for the way they wish to live or die.”

Wentworth: You phrased it very well, Sarah. Thank you.