

Name

Course

Instructor

Date

Euthanasia

Euthanasia has led to the development of heated debate in the last few decades. There are numerous arguments against and for legalization of this procedure. “Euthanasia” is a Greek word denoting “good demise”. It is a practice of ending human life in order to relieve a person from an irrepressible disease or unbearable pain. Euthanasia is often executed by the request of the dying patient. When conducted by the patient’s request, it is often known as voluntary euthanasia. When nothing is done to prevent the patient’s death, it is often denoted as a deleterious or passive euthanasia. Euthanasia is currently not allowed by law in some countries of the world. However, it remains the most logical choice for patients who are in emotional and psychological pain (Medina 57).

Allowing the suffering patient to decide on whether to live or not constitutes a fundamental human right that everyone should be allowed to exercise. Actually, everyone wants to die with dignity. Nobody wants to die after being plugged into a life sustaining machine for years. The decision regarding personal lives should be left to the preference of the suffering persons. Therefore, it is essential to realize that the decision of the autonomous patient to die has an intrinsic value. Therefore, euthanasia is the best logical option to end the life of a suffering person. It helps to end life with dignity and prevent further pain and agony. For instance, the ladies, who were aware that some rogue soldier would rape and then kill them, drank a poison in

order to evade the pain and agony resulted from the soldier's inhuman actions. Through this, the ladies died with dignity and were free of pain and agony (Yount 122).

Euthanasia should be legalized because it provides a patient suffering from pain with an opportunity to have a dignified end of life, rather than living a life full of agony. Although legalization of the procedure has faced opposition, numerous countries have managed to incorporate the procedure in their health care framework. For instance, Dutch have already legalized euthanasia. In the US, euthanasia is only tolerable in Oregon. In this state, it is acknowledged that euthanasia honors the civil rights of an individual to choose death over unbearable life. Therefore, other states in the USA need to follow the strategies implemented in Oregon state in order to relieve the terminally ill patients of pain. It is also evident that euthanasia enables a patient to evade mental and physical suffering resulting from the illness. A human being should not bear an extreme pain, especially under the circumstance of little or no hope for curing. Such a situation amounts to an indirect torture. For instance, granting the nurse a permission to offer overdose prescription to one's relative enduring pain is acceptable since it reduces the suffering (Snyder 144).

Lastly, it is important to note that all patients have fundamental rights just like other human beings. Therefore, they are entitled to make an autonomous decision concerning their life. It means that a person should not be deprived from such rights, especially when attempting to evade pain, distress and agony caused by terminal illness. Therefore, when a terminally ill patient decides to end his/her life, the family members should not oppose this decision.

Conclusion

In conclusion, it is apparent that there is a need to legalize euthanasia in order to protect terminally person from undergoing physical and mental torture. However, legalization of the

procedure requires the development of a structured legal framework in order to avoid abuse on the part of physicians.

Works Cited

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