

Letters to the Editor of The Sydney Morning Herald

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Elected members should put aside views of euthanasia

I understood that our parliamentarians were our elected representatives, and as such had a duty to take steps to determine the will of the members of their electorate and vote accordingly ("Foley's tweet on assisted dying offends", September 26). This seldom happens in modern politics.

I urge the NSW Opposition Leader to ignore his personal view that euthanasia is state-sanctioned killing akin to capital punishment and start dialogue with those whom he represents and whose opinions he should be championing. The decision to end one's life is a serious and most personal decision. Everyone should have a legal right to control their life. The proposed euthanasia laws have the world's most stringent safeguards but more than that, they are not compulsory. No one will be forced to end their life, by the state or others.

Each person is entitled to their views, but they do not have a right to force these views on others in the community. Every person should have the right to live and end their life in a way they choose, as long as it is lawful. Having other people take away this freedom should not be tolerated in our community.

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How disrespectful of the views of a majority of the community, and wilfully ignorant of the evidence from overseas that assisted dying laws are safe and effective. The tentacles of the Catholic Church still cling tightly around the Labor Party in NSW.

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<http://www.smh.com.au/comment/smh-letters/gas-supply-crisis-is-entirely-of-turnbulls-making-20170925-gyor0m.html>