Should euthanasia be made legal

Health & Medicine



Should euthanasia be made legal? Euthanasia is the ending of the life of a person who is sick with the aim of ending pain or suffering. Majority of those who are assisted to die are those who are suffering from chronic diseases that have no cure. In United States, it is illegal to assist someone to die. However, some states such as Oregon, Washington, Montana, and Vermont have legalized euthanasia. This practice is mainly done by injecting the person with lethal chemicals or removing machines that are supporting the person. This paper will therefore, analyze reasons why euthanasia should be illegal.

According to US constitution, every citizen irrespective of their age, gender, race, culture, etc has the right to live. No one is allowed to take the life of the other person. Therefore, it is illegal for any person irrespective of the profession to decide whether the other person will live or not. With the current stressing condition, legalizing the practice will increase the number of euthanasia cases.

When patients are undergoing intense pain and suffering, they are likely to make wrong decisions which are regrettable. Therefore, assisted suicide is unethical because it gives a person who is of unsound mind an opportunity to make critical decisions on their assistance. As a result, the practice should be legalized.

Allowing assisted suicide in our hospitals will lead to an increase in the cases of negligence. Currently, the number of negligence cases in our health facilities is alarming. Therefore, allowing physicians to terminate the life of people suffering from terminal diseases will reduce the accountability levels. The health providers will get an escape route in case they make mistakes that could have otherwise been avoided.

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According to our religious beliefs, only God has the power to take the life of a person. Therefore, assisted suicide is not ethical because it provides a person with the right to kill. In addition, such laws will even make patients who are not suffering from terminal diseases to prefer to undergo voluntary euthanasia instead of fighting the disease to the end.

In many cases, the health providers have been faced with dilemmas on either to save one person especially during giving birth. However, some cases ends up being successful with both lives having been saved. However, if euthanasia is legalized, health providers will not give a try to solve such dilemmas. This will lead to increased deaths that could have otherwise been avoided.

Many people in the society fear suffering. With the number of people suffering from chronic diseases increasing, the experience of handling a patient who is suffering from such diseases has become common. Some immoral family members might compel the health providers to end the life of the patient in order to avoid the traumatizing experience. In addition, giving the physicians such power will reduce the level of transparency as some family members might end the life of their own for personal interests. In conclusion, physicians should not be allowed to practice euthanasia. It is immoral and against the ethical standards and religious beliefs of the people in the society.