

Some State And National Groups Against Legalization:

- [The ARC of Massachusetts](#)
- [Ctr. for Public Representation](#)
- [Disability Policy Consortium](#)
- [Independence Associates](#)
- [MetroWest Center CIL](#)
- [Second Thoughts MA](#)
- [Stavros CIL](#)

- [American Disabled For Attendant Programs Today \(ADAPT \)](#)
- [American Assn. of People with Disabilities \(AAPD\)](#)
- [The ARC](#)
- [Autistic Self Advocacy Network \(ASAN\)](#)
- [Disability Rights & Defense Fund \(DREDF\)](#)
- [Nat. Council on Disability](#)
- [Nat. Council on Independent Living](#)
- [Not Dead Yet](#)
- [United Spinal Assn., National](#)

LEARN MORE

Best place to start is the new documentary [“Better off Dead?”](#) with disabled actor [Liz Carr](#). Search for “Liz Carr YouTube better off dead”. 1 hr

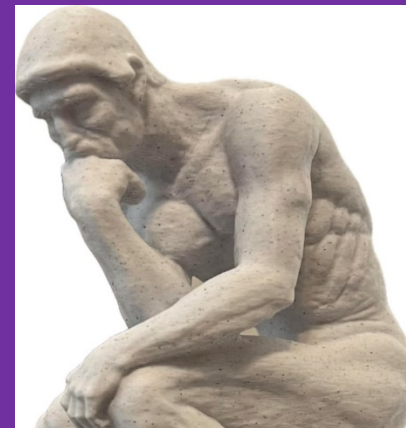
NOT DEAD YET BLOG:
notdeadyet.org

SECOND THOUGHTS:
second-thoughts.org

BOTTOM LINE:

Under legalized assisted suicide, some people’s lives will be ended without their consent, through insurance denials, medical mistakes and all the forms of coercion and abuse. No safeguards have ever been enacted, or even proposed, that can prevent this outcome, which can never be undone.

SECOND THOUGHTS?



NO ASSISTED SUICIDE!

www.second-thoughts.org

ABOUT

Second Thoughts is a grassroots group of disability rights advocates from Massachusetts and the region which opposes the legalization of assisted suicide as a deadly form of discrimination against disabled people. We demand social justice against laws, policies, and media messages fueled by a “better dead than disabled” mindset.

Second Thoughts is the state affiliate of the national disability rights group against assisted suicide, Not Dead Yet, which organized in 1996 to protest Jack Kevorkian, whose disabled victims were being falsely described by the media as “terminal.”

WHY WE OPPOSE ASSISTED SUICIDE

- Medical bias: 82% of doctors think our quality-of-life worse than nondisabled people.
- “Quality-of-life” is already used to justify withholding treatment from us.
- Insurers get “choice” to deny needed treatment.
- Not about pain, but distress about disability and increasing dependence.
- Keeps coercion and abuse hidden behind closed doors
- Slippery slope is real: inevitable expansion.
- Terminal predictions often wrong.
- Racial healthcare disparities become deadly.

QUOTES

- Assisted suicide endangers seniors, sick people, disabled people, poor people, and Black and brown people. As long as racial disparities and disability discrimination exist in health care, assisted suicide cannot be the answer. – Anita Cameron, Dir. of Minority Outreach, Not Dead Yet
- Personally, as someone who has been suicidal in the past, I can relate to the desire for “a painless and easy way out.” However, depression is treatable and reversible. Suicide is not. – Ruthie Poole, disability rights activist, peer specialist.