

MR.
Madam Chair, members of the committee,
man

My name is Garnett Rope, here from Vaughn Montana representing myself.

Let's look at the European model of assisted suicide and see how it is working out for them.

- In the Netherlands the assisted suicide (a.s.) rate has increased from 1923 deaths in 2006 to 3695 in 2011, so that 2.8% of all Dutch deaths are caused by (as). They now have mobile units that carry 6 medical personnel in a van right to the patients home. Sort of a right to your door death squad.
- In Belgium there is a new trend to give psychiatric patients (as) . A 44 year old woman requested this procedure. Her illness was anorexia. After accusing her psychiatrist of physically abusing her, she then asked a colleague to help her die. Conveniently there was no person to testify against the first doctor in the abuse case. Currently, people with Alzheimers or dementia, even minors can commit suicide with medical assistance. Now couples are permitted to kill themselves when one has a terminal illness and the mate want to die with them. Interestingly, no doctor has ever been prosecuted in (as) cases. Recently 2 deaf twin brothers, Marc and Eddy Verbessem asked for (as) . Their illness was that they were going blind. It's sad that deafness and blindness are considered to be "unbearable disease".

Again in Belgium, neonatologists have drawn up procedures which enable the euthanasia of premature newborn infants or those presenting a handicap in one of three instances:

1. the infant has no chance of survival
2. it is deemed to have a mediocre quality of life
3. their outlook is poor –the infant will suffer unbearable pain.

Assisted suicide is legal in Belgium, Netherlands, Luxembourg, and Switzerland.