



基督徒倫理

Euthanasia 安樂死

- 因由：
 - 人受痛苦煎熬而死
 - 人失去尊嚴而活 (例如老人癡呆等情況)
 - 令面對受痛苦煎熬的人讓他們生命結束是仁慈的表現
 - 令失去尊嚴生活的人讓他們死得有尊嚴
 - 人有權結束自己的生命
- The word euthanasia is derived from the Greek words *eu* (“good”) and *thanatos* (“death”).
- This procedure is popularly called “mercy killing”.
- Both terms are misleading, being presented in a positive way
- It is simply *the act of intentionally ending the life of a person who is elderly, terminally ill, or suffering from some incurable injury or disease.*

Biblical Teaching

- The Sixth Commandment: You shall not murder (Ex. 20:13)
 - Can be premeditated murder
 - And also any accidental causing of a person’s death through negligence or carelessness.
- The commandment is affirmed in the New Testament
 - 太 19:18 他問：“甚麼誡命？”耶穌回答：“就是‘不可殺人，不可姦淫，不可偷盜，不可作假證供；
 - 羅 13:8 不要欠人的債；但在彼此相愛的事上，要覺得是欠了人的債。愛別人的，就成全了律法。9 那“不可姦淫，不可殺人，不可偷盜，不可貪心”等等的誡命，都包括在“愛人如己”這一句話裡面了。
- Therefore, this biblical command prohibits taking the life of another person, even if that person is elderly, terminally ill, or in great pain.

聖經中的例子：

掃羅之死 (撒下 1:1-16)

- 撒下 1:9 於是他對我說：‘請你站到我身邊來，把我殺死，因為痛苦抓住我，我卻還死不了。’10 我就站到他身邊去，把他殺了，因為我知道他一倒下，就不能再活了。我摘下他頭上的王冠，取下他臂上的手鐲，帶到這裡來奉給我主。”
- Some people use this passage to justify euthanasia
 - The patient (Saul) appeared to be terminally injured, with no reasonable human hope of recovery.
 - The patient was in extreme pain, and if he did not die, he faced the prospect of even more suffering.
 - The patient clearly requested, even begged, that someone would put him to death.
 - This request was also a command from the head of government at that time, because Saul was still the king.



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- Objection
 - David, who at that time is clearly portrayed as a man after God’s “own heart” (1 Sam. 13:14; cf. Acts 13:22), declares that this man who had killed Saul is worthy of capital punishment. In other words, the person who carried our euthanasia is guilty of murder.
 - 撒下 1:16 大衛對他說：“你流人血的罪要歸到自己的頭上，因為你親口作證指控自己說：‘我殺了耶和華的受膏者。’”
 - David accepts the Amekite’s story as true and passes judgment on the man based on the story. David condemns him based on his own confession of guilt.
- Both Exodus 20:13 and 2 Samuel 1:1-16 indicate that it is morally wrong to actively take the life of a terminally-ill person who is suffering and who asks to be put to death.

Killing Vs Letting Die

Killing	Letting Die
Actively doing something to a patient that hastens or causes his or her death.	Passively allowing someone to die from other causes, without interfering the process.
The cause of death is the action taken by another person.	The cause of death is the disease, injury, or aging process that has already been occurring in the person who dies.
Morally wrong from Biblical standpoint.	Moral decision is more complex 見死不救?

- It is wrong to passively allow the person die when:
 - There is a reasonable hope of recovery.
 - We are able to help.
 - 太 22:39 第二條也和它相似，就是要愛人如己。
 - 太 7:12 你們願意人怎樣待你們，你們也要怎樣待人，這是律法和先知的總綱。
 - 好撒瑪利亞人的比喻 (路 10:25-37)
- It **may be right** to allow the person to die when:
 - There is no reasonable human hope of recovery (sometimes called a situation of “futility”).
 - And it is the patient’s wish to be allowed to die,
 - And we are unable to help (such as endangering yourself, huge medical cost...)
- Allowing someone to die may include not starting a medical life-support system (such as an artificial respirator) or stopping a life support system.
- Christians need not fear death because of eternal hope.
- 保羅的生死觀
 - 20 我所熱切期待和盼望的，就是在凡事上我都不會羞愧，只要滿有膽量，不論生死，總要讓基督在我身上照常被尊為大。21 因為我活著就是基督，



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我死了就有益處。22 但如果我仍在世上活著，能夠使我的工作有成果，我就不知道應該怎樣選擇了！23 我處於兩難之間，情願離世與基督同在，因為那是好得無比的。24 可是為了你們，我更需要活在世上。

聖經以外反對安樂死的理由：

1. The human moral instinct that murder is wrong.
 - Most people have a conviction that it is wrong to murder another human being.
2. 滑波理論 The slippery slope from Euthanasia to an “Obligation” to die.
 - 爭取安樂死合法化的人,本來是只針對不治之絕症,後來逐漸把這個範圍擴大.
 - If euthanasia is allowed for some patients who are suffering, then how can we prevent it from being applied to more and more patients who are suffering?
 - And with the increasing cost of health care for the elderly and extremely ill patients, there is likely to be growing pressure on people to ask that their lives be taken.
 - Infant euthanasia
 - In September 2005 the Dutch government announced its intention to expand its euthanasia policy to allow doctors to end the lives of infants with the parents’ consent.
 - Children euthanasia
 - Belgium has also passed a law allowing the euthanasia of children, and the first child was killed in September 2016.
3. The horror of involuntary euthanasia
 - A large number of elderly people have been put to death against their will.
4. Examples of People who have surprisingly recovered.

加拿大的例子

Robert Latimer Case

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/saskatoon/robert-latimer-25-years-later-1.5360711>

Euthanasia in Canada (MAID medical assistance in dying)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Euthanasia_in_Canada

Dying With Dignity (It’s your life. It’s your choice)

https://www.dyingwithdignity.ca/get_the_facts_assisted_dying_law_in_canada?gclid=Cj0KCQjw0pfzBRCOARIsANi0g0s2Ys4rSEQlgnTqIhmBaacXqZviTuSlxvWf-IvQ2u2mccq6ARJ9U6caAg3YEALw_wcB