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The Euthanasia-A Boon or Curse: An Understanding

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ABSTRACT

In this uncertain world, the only certainty is death irrespective of person's likes. Every person knows that death will eventually occur in his life. If the time comes, death will occur suddenly irrespective of age, gender, profession, financial status and by any means which is never thought of. Nobody can avoid death. Despite this all knowledge, it's very difficult for people to believe in the death of their own or their loved ones. Some people die quickly in a minute or two while some are waiting for death to come. The majority of people are scared of death. Some people live longer and some died at a young age and some are thinking that death is the ultimate solution to their problems, and for that reason, they commit suicide. One of the other ways, death is usually accompanied by pain, trouble, struggle and suffering. In end-stage diseases such as advanced cancer, AIDS, heart failure, kidney failure, neurological diseases, Parkinson's disease, etc. the patient is suffering from pain. These diseases are not curable permanently and worsen over a period and ultimately lead to death. Such a patient often requires special care from an expert medical team keeping the symptoms and suffering to an utmost manageable and tolerable level (palliative care). But sometimes, the pain and suffering arising from such diseases may become intolerable and unbearable. Therefore, death remains the ultimate option for such a patient. Euthanasia is an act of intentionally putting to death with all legal formalities to get free from pain and sufferings of such incurable diseases. Despite this advantage, euthanasia always remains a debate among the participants, physicians, scholars in ethics and law, politician and the public. This ethical dilemma regarding euthanasia, whether legal or illegal, executed or not is tried to discuss in this paper. In addition to that the care of terminally ill people is also discussed in short in this paper.

Keywords: *Palliative care, Euthanasia, terminal illness.*

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