

Assisted Suicide: People Abused and Exploited

Laura Petrillo, MD, Palliative Care Specialist: Assisted Suicide is not an Acceptable Answer from the Medical Community

"We have an urgent responsibility to improve the experience of dying so no one feels the only option to maintain their dignity is to hasten their death."

Dr. Laura Petrillo works everyday with patients who are learning to live with chronic and terminal illness. Medical literature indicates that inequality leads to earlier and greater effects of aging among patients from disadvantaged groups who then face under or over-treatment by the medical community. With these facts in the background, some groups want to legalize assisted suicide.

Our flawed health care system, steep medical costs, and ageism all contribute to interest in physician-assisted death, which is an incredibly inappropriate solution to real end-of-life concerns. People are already dying prematurely in this present system. Assisted suicide will simply cause more to die prematurely.

