



END OF LIFE AFFECTS EVERYONE

WHAT DOES END-OF-LIFE MEAN?

End-of-life refers to the ethical decisions in determining the care of critically or terminally ill patients. This includes euthanasia, physician-assisted suicide and removal of food and hydration for those who are not dying.

DO END-OF-LIFE ISSUES VIOLATE THE SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE?

Yes. The intentional killing of innocent persons, preborn or born, is gravely contrary to the dignity of the human being, to the golden rule, and to the holiness of the Creator.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH CHOOSING TO END ONE'S SUFFERING?

The decision to end a life is an irreversible act that illogically seeks to improve life by destroying it. A human life is created by (and belongs to) God. We have no more right to intentionally take our own lives than we do to another's.

IS HOSPICE A LIFE-AFFIRMING OPTION?

There are many genuine hospice services that work to preserve the sanctity of human life. However, as decisions regarding a passing patient's care are often left to the family, it is advisable to have a Will To Live in place to ensure legal protection from unethical practices or unwanted treatment.

RESOURCES

- <http://www.lifeandhope.com/>
- <http://studentsforlife.org/prolifefacts/euthanasia/>
- <http://nrlc.org/medethics/willtolive/>

For more information, also visit cecforlife.com/resources/endoflife