



ASSISTED SUICIDE BILL C-14 LANDS WITH A THUD

“Palliative care is a viable alternative to instant assisted death. Assisted suicide profoundly changes and detrimentally affects the practice of medicine in Canada.”

Supreme Court of Canada, with its antenna always attuned to the latest progressive trends, dumped assisted suicide on Canadians in February, 2015 in *Carter vs. Canada*. To do this, the court ignored its own previous decision on the issue, and that six different Parliaments had previously rejected the notion of assisted suicide.

In drafting the troubling Bill C-14, the Liberal government, at least, had the sense to ignore the wild-eyed recommendations put forward by the Liberal dominated Parliamentary Committee, which had reviewed the issue. That Committee left no stone unturned to ensure that everyone including the mentally ill, minors, and those with dementia, even though not terminally ill, had an opportunity to consent to have themselves killed. These recommendations were ignored in the legislation, fortunately for these vulnerable individuals.

Members of this Committee, especially its Co-Chairman, MP Rob Oliphant, (Don Valley West), a former United Church Minister and a homosexual activist, were incensed that the Committee’s recommendations were not accepted. He demanded that the government make a reference to the Supreme Court of Canada immediately after the legislation is passed to determine whether it is constitutional. This, of course, would have the advantage of the government covering the cost of the litigation on the legislation, and this would be faster than individuals or groups seeking amendments to undertake the long process of bringing a legal challenge through the courts. The government, however, has indicated that it does not think it necessary to seek a reference, stating that such a process is premature.

The pro-euthanasia organization “Death with Dignity” was also unhappy with the government ignoring the Committee’s recommendations. At a press conference, the organization described Bill C-14 as “harsh and discriminatory” because the mentally ill, minors and those with dementia won’t have access to having themselves killed.

1. PROTECTION OF CONSCIENCE RIGHTS

Bill C-14 did not tackle the crucial issue of conscience rights of physicians and religious institutions which object to assisted suicide. The Liberals conveniently left this sticky issue to the provinces to deal with, despite the fact the Supreme Court stated definitively, in the *Carter* case, that “Nothing in this declaration would compel physicians to provide assistance in dying.” No mention is made in Bill C-14 of the conscience rights of nurses and pharmacists, who are exempted as well under this legislation from criminal prosecution for prescribing or administering a lethal dose to a patient.

The Charter of Rights provides in s.2 and s.15 that religious and conscience rights are protected in Canada. Already the medical associations in Ontario and Saskatchewan have regulations which provide that physicians with conscientious objections must “refer” patients. This makes the physician complicit in the act. The government has ignored this basic right of freedom of religion in Bill C-14.

It is noteworthy that the Canadian public is fully in support of providing conscience protection for religious institutions and individuals. Angus Reid conducted an on-line survey in March, 2016 on whether Catholic institutions should be required to provide assisted suicide. According to this Poll 69% agree (three in five Canadians) that institutions with moral objections to assisted suicide should be able to refuse to do so.

The pro-assisted suicide/euthanasia supporters, however, insist that faith based institutions and individuals should

CONTENTS

ASSISTED SUICIDE BILL C-14 LANDS WITH A THUD.....	PAGE 1
REAL WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE AT THE UN STATUS OF WOMEN BY: CECILIA FORSYTH.....	PAGE 3
FEMINISM RETURNS UNDER TRUDEAU.....	PAGE 4
IT'S TOUGH BEING PRO-ABORTION.....	PAGE 5
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.....	PAGE 6

be required to comply with requests for assisted suicide, as this would indicate that society has given its full approval to killing patients merely as a routine medical procedure removed from moral concerns. In short, it would affirm the correctness of the pro-death crowd's views on the issue.

The legislation also lacks oversight in that there is no advance overview by an independent third party before the patient is put to death. The bill permits the doctor or nurse who approved the act to also report the act to the authorities. We know, from experience in the European jurisdictions that have assisted suicide, that this reporting system is a completely unreliable source of information and provides an excellent opportunity for cover-up.

Bill C-14 limits assisted suicide to those eligible under Canadian Health Services. This at least prevents a suicide invasion coming to Canada from the U.S. and abroad, and eliminates the problems of who pays the bill for the death service. It's the Canadian taxpayer who foots the bill, just as though killing patients is normal health care, instead of being contrary to the standard of medical care determined over the centuries to "do no harm".

It is alarming that Bill C-14 provides that a "third party" aiding a medical practitioner or nurse practitioner to provide medical assistance for suicide is exempt from liability. Does this mean that anyone, regardless of who they are, can actually perform the lethal act? There is no supervision of the poison prescription taken home. There is no way to determine whether there was proper consent before the poison is administered.

It is noteworthy that, although Bill C-14 applies to those with an incurable illness whose death is "reasonably foreseeable", whether physical or psychological, the illness must be intolerable and cannot be relieved under conditions that the patient considers acceptable. Palliative care relieves pain,

loneliness and fear in nearly all cases. Without knowing the benefits of palliative care, how can the patient determine that the condition of the illness is intolerable? Bill C-14 should be amended so that palliative care is required to be administered during the fifteen days delay, according to the legislation, after the request for death has been made. This will enable the patient, whose life is of inestimable value, to give an informed consent on whether the health conditions are indeed not acceptable.

2. A LAWYER'S PARADISE

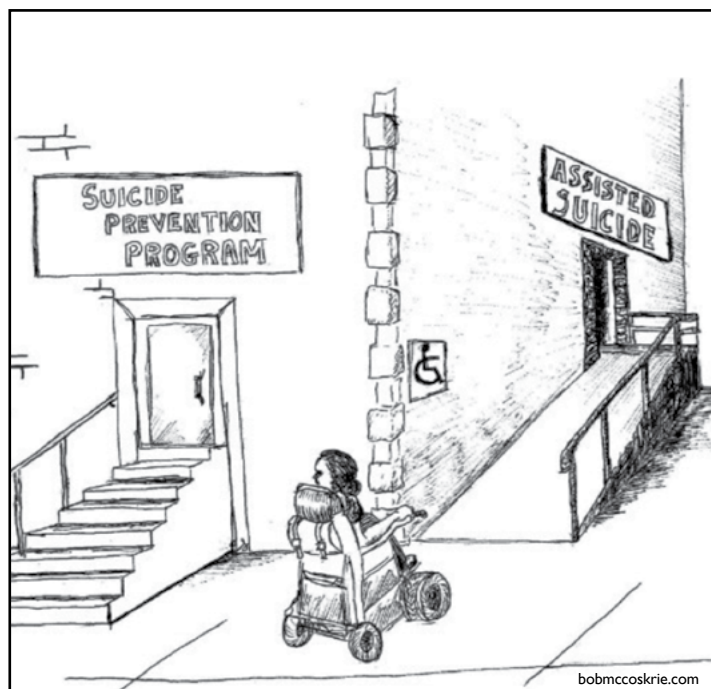
The vague wording used in Bill C-14 makes it a lawyer's paradise. It creates no end of possibilities for litigation. The lawyers will prosper under this legislation, but no one else.

3. NEW CONCEPT OF MEDICINE

Medical care has always been based on the concept of "do not harm". Patients' lives heretofore have always been protected by the medical profession who work to make them better. Palliative care is a viable alternative to instant assisted death. Assisted suicide profoundly changes and detrimentally affects the practice of medicine in Canada.

The golden thread throughout our legal system is that each individual life is valuable no matter who they may be. They must be protected. If we lose this concept, then everyone's life is endangered — the homeless, the alcoholic, the drug addict, the prostitute. No longer will they be helped by the state. Instead, their lives will be regarded as useless, not being worth-while, and purposeless and, therefore, can be readily eliminated.

It's not just the lives of the ill and terminally ill that are at stake with Bill C-14 — it's all of us who are now drawn into this catastrophe. †



MESSAGE BOARD

- We hope to see many of you at our Annual General Meeting on June 17, 2016 in Toronto. See the [details](#) in this issue. The meeting is open to all members of REAL Women of Canada whose annual membership is up to date. Following our speaker, there will be time for fellowship.
- We thank our faithful members for your financial support which is always greatly needed and is very much appreciated. The summer months tend to be lean ones for [donations](#), although our expenses never take vacations. Please try to send us a little extra "something" this summer.
- If you are a member of a service group or church group or a business looking for a non-profit organization to [donate](#) to, please consider REAL Women of Canada as a worthy recipient. Also, please consider REAL Women in your will and when making an "In Memoriam" donation.

REAL WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE AT THE UN STATUS OF WOMEN

By: Cecilia Forsyth, past President

REAL Women of Canada representatives have attended the annual UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) since the mid 1990's. The recent CSW 60 took place March 14—24, 2016 in New York City. The theme for this year is "Women's empowerment and its link to the Sustainable Development Goals". (SDG) The review theme was "The elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls."

Every UN meeting has two parts: (1) the delegates representing the Member States and (2) the non-government organizations (NGO) which includes REAL Women of Canada. The Member States negotiate and produce the outcome document, called the Agreed Conclusions of the Conference. The Member States may sponsor NGO presentations, called "side events" on the UN premise. The NGO part schedules the NGO presentations, called "parallel events". About 10 different parallel events run every two hours each day at three different locations.

This year is the first time the "A" word, abortion, has appeared front and centre in the titles of some NGO presentations. It has always been hidden under the term 'sexual and reproductive health'. This is an indication of the determination of the UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-Moon, UN agencies, European Union, United States, Canada and others to have 'sexual and reproductive health services and rights (meaning abortion) and comprehensive sexuality' designated as human rights for women and girls. The pro-family coalition works with delegates to keep this terminology out of the UN documents.

REAL WOMEN OF CANADA AT CSW 60

Almost all of the pro-family events were assigned the early morning (as we were) or at the end of the day time slots when there is the lowest attendance. It is interesting to note that one of the very first events on March 14th and one of the very last events on March 24th were pro-family presentations. Several pro-family requests for parallel events were denied including the request by Campaign Life Coalition co-sponsored by REAL Women of Canada and the Society for Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) to sponsor an NGO event on maternal health care. Equality and fairness are not attributes of the UN bureaucrats.

Surprisingly, in the end, this worked in our favour since the Permanent Mission of the Holy See to the UN offered to sponsor our panel on "Best Practices for Maternal Health Care in Africa" at a more popular time. The presentation was held in the UN General Assembly building with an audience of 400 people including UN delegates as well as NGO representatives. His Excellency, The Most Reverend Bernardito C. Auza, Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations was the moderator. A video of the presentation can

be seen at: www.campaignlifecoalition.com.

The excellent speakers included:

- Founder and President of Culture of Life Africa, Objanuju Ekeocha, a young woman from Nigeria, who said, her culture believes human life is precious and that motherhood is a blessing not a burden. She admitted Africa has the highest maternal death rate in the world, but the west's response of abortion to this is not helpful, and is "another form of colonization."
- Dr. Robert Walley from Newfoundland, Founder and Executive Director of MaterCare International which provides health services and hospitals in Africa. He noted, "91% of maternal deaths, occur in the last three months of pregnancy, during labour and delivery, or the first week after delivery and most could be prevented by early treatment". He called the lack of medical facilities and trained midwives a form of violence against mothers. Dr. Walley said, abortion and birth control are irrelevant, and an outrageous solution to maternal mortality in Africa.
- Maria Madise, International Director for the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children, lamented the "forceful diversion of resources to the promotion of abortion and birth control programs that claim to reduce maternal mortality". Evidence is clear that countries with restricted abortion such as Poland, Ireland and Malta, have the lowest rates of maternal death. She concluded, eliminating the child is not a solution to reduce maternal deaths.

REAL Women also organized with Endeavour Forum Inc. of Australia as co-sponsor, an NGO event addressing the link between abortion and breast cancer and between abortion and violence against women. Speakers were Dr. Angela Lanfranchi, a breast cancer surgeon, Professor Joel Brind, a medical researcher, and Dr. Martha Shuping a psychiatrist. World-wide studies show abortion can increase a woman's risk of breast cancer by denying her the protective effect of a full-term pregnancy. Domestic violence, intimate partner violence, coerced abortion and sex-selection of girl babies are all associated with abortion. See *The Breast Cancer Prevention Institute* at www.bcpinstitute.org for details.

Finally, in these busy few days, REAL Women also, co-sponsored a presentation organized by the Center for Family & Human Rights (C-Fam) on "Political Correctness and Gender Ideology". Panelists were Austin Ruse, President of C-Fam, Stella Morabito, contributor to *The Federalist*, and Michael Walsh, screenwriter and author, whose latest book is *The Devil's Pleasure Palace*. They discussed the modern problem of political correctness; where it comes from, how it is exercised, its dangers to a free people and how it leads to totalitarianism.

CANADA IS BACK SAYS TRUDEAU

Every time the Prime Minister or the other Ministers spoke at CSW 60, they proclaimed, “Canada is back” to loud cheers and applause. The Prime Minister was further applauded when he said, “I am a feminist”.

Canada sponsored a side event with International Planned Parenthood Federation at the impressive office of the United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA). Initially, two colleagues from Campaign Life and I were denied entry, but after pleading our case as Canadian NGOs, we were finally admitted. The messages of the two Canadian Ministers were very revealing as to the intent of the Liberal government in promoting abortion at home and abroad.

The Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Status of Women, proclaimed Canada’s commitment to: 1) advance gender equality and protect women’s rights around the world; 2) be a leader to reduce and prevent gender-based

violence, 3) promote sexual and reproductive health and rights, (abortion); and 4) stand up for LGBTQ rights (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgenders) at home and abroad.

The Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau reaffirmed Canada’s “explicit commitment in support of access to sexual and reproductive health services for all women and adolescents.” She called, “sexual and reproductive health a matter of human rights and gender equality”.

Canada announced it is running for a seat on the UN Commission on the Status of Women for the 2017–2021 term. If elected, Minister Hajdu said Canada would lead to support the full realization of women’s rights as human rights around the world.

In UN language, any version of the term ‘sexual and reproductive health services and rights’ — means **abortion** and radical sexuality education. Instead of saying ‘Canada is back’, one could say, ‘the Liberals are back’. Regrettably. †

FEMINISM RETURNS UNDER TRUDEAU

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau thinks he is leading the parade for the “progressives”. He preens his moral superiority on such matters as climate change, the positive power of the UN, feminism, UN peacekeeping, etc. Most Canadians have other concerns and priorities. It is also known that these “progressive” ideas have spectacularly failed elsewhere, such as in Europe and the United States. Trudeau is leading a parade that has few followers, and is marching his imagined parade to nowhere.

Justin Trudeau’s policies indicate that he is trying to recapture what he perceives was the “Golden Era” of his father’s reign of power. That is, young Trudeau’s policies are duplicating those of his late father, in many instances. He apparently believes emulating his father will, to use one of his favourite expressions, “Bring Canada Back”.

Examples of the duplication of Trudeau Senior’s policies include, close relationship with China, wide access to abortion, feminism (which the father extravagantly funded), close ties with the UN, including a generous contribution to UN peacekeeping, a disregard for deficits and increased funding to all his own special friends and groups. For example, Trudeau Senior, gave loans to the Communist leaders of Jamaica, Michael Manley and Fidel Castro of Cuba and exalted these communist leaders’ “success”. Such policies all seem to be eerily reflected in the young Trudeau’s agenda which he believes will emulate the “glorious” times of his father’s past.

No example of this is better than Trudeau’s total support of abortion by refusing to allow any pro-life candidate to run for his party. It is to be noted Trudeau Senior brought in an abortion amendment in 1969 which included open access to abortion, and the Charter of Rights which threw out the abortion law entirely.

One of Trudeau Senior’s interests was the promotion of feminism, now severely outdated, and which Trudeau Junior, is duplicating.

On International Women’s Day, in the Globe and Mail

(March 8, 2016), Justin Trudeau, stated “Because of my parents, I am deeply grounded in my own identity as a proud feminist”. Speaking at a United Nations Status of Women Commission on March 17, 2016, Trudeau stated: “I’m going to keep saying loud and clearly that I am a feminist...”

Later, that same day, at the 2016 Catalyst awards dinner held at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York City, Trudeau received the **Gender Equity Award**. The **Catalyst** organization is a group which lobbies for equal numbers of women in parliaments, corporations and on boards of directors. Catalyst ignores the fact that females now dominate the fields of education, nursing, medicine, law, child care, and social work where males have little presence. Equality for Catalyst is a one-way street.

FEMINIST IDEOLOGY AND REAL LIFE

Trudeau has a considerable challenge ahead of him if he wants to implement the failed ideology of feminism in Canada. In finding female Liberal candidates, he admitted that he has found it very difficult to convince women to run for political office: “you have to ask a woman on average 14 times before she says yes”. He claims that if you ask a man to run, the first question he asks is “So when do I start?” He has also stated that women are more likely than men to refuse career opportunities because they are busy caring for children and elderly parents. For Trudeau, feminist ideology trumps the practical reality of life, including responsibilities for others.

MEN MUST BE FEMINISTS TOO, ACCORDING TO TRUDEAU

Justin Trudeau also stated, in his speech at the Waldorf Astoria, that men need to demand and support a “societal shift” and need to “get comfortable identifying ourselves as feminists.” In the March 8, 2016 Globe and Mail article, he affirmed

“It is time for the full and equal participation of women in our social, political and economic worlds to be the norm, not the exception”. As if women are not already significantly contributing to Canadian society, not just in politics and the economy, as professionals and employees at all levels, but also, as volunteers, part time workers and homemakers. The reality is that women must also prioritize the requirements of their families: e.g., their children and their aging relatives. This is a crucial contribution that helps keep social service costs manageable and is vital for the well-being of society.

FEMINISM DENIGRATES MEN

A well-known characteristic of feminism is that it denigrates men. Trudeau is caught in this trap. His gender equity cabinet is not, in reality, gender-based, but just gives that appearance. Five of the female appointments to the cabinet were not Ministers at all, but were appointed as Secretaries of State or junior ministers to assist the male Ministers. These women were symbolic only, since they did not have the responsibilities of the male cabinet members, but they were being paid the same, in true feminist fashion. When asked why he appointed a so-called gender parity cabinet, Trudeau flippantly replied, “because it’s 2015”. He would have been much more accurate if he had stated: “because it’s 1980” which was the time when feminism was in full bloom. Today, most Canadians have other priorities, such as the economy, health care, taxes and employment. Feminism is way down the list.

Trudeau stated in his UN interview, “Men should be lucky I only made it a 50% women cabinet because it wouldn’t be fair to go purely on merit based!” Does he mean that women on the whole are more capable than men? How sexist. He noted further that questions about moving a family and balancing work and family “only comes up later, if ever, in conversation with a man running for politics”. This

is an insult to the many men in politics and other demanding professions, who go to great lengths to do what’s best for their families and to preserve their marriages.

Trudeau did acknowledge, according to the Globe and Mail of March 8, 2016, that “We also need to value work done at home — in raising of families — the same way we value work in the office”. This acknowledgement was likely due to the fact that his mother, Margaret, did not have a history of working for paid employment, and his wife, Sophie Gregoire, remains at home looking after his children (along with the help of two nannies, paid by the taxpayer). Trudeau added: “Women and men alike face judgment and discrimination for choosing to stay at home with their families, instead of remaining in the work force.” Equating mothers and fathers at home is a deceptive oversimplification since, in 2014, among couples with at least one child under 16, full time mothers at home outnumbered fathers at home 8 to 1 (70 to 1 in 1976), while single earner fathers outnumber single earner mothers 4 to 1 (25 to 1 in 1976).

Egalitarianism underpins the Liberal government’s intrusive social engineering. How ironic because the Liberals insist that women require special government intervention so that they can become equal. Thus, we have millions of tax dollars chasing after the equality mirage, resisted by women, even Liberal women (including Trudeau’s mother and wife), who recognize that the social infrastructure, marriage and the family, is equally important in life. The fact is, Trudeau, with his promotion of outdated feminism, is a leader without a parade. Trudeau is not the face of the future; he is the face of his father’s past.

Speech available at: <https://www.liberal.ca/justin-trudeau-delivers-remarks-at-the-2016-catalyst-awards-dinner/>

Prime Minister Trudeau at the UN discussing gender equality: <http://www.cpac.ca/en/programs/headline-politics/episodes/90006936/> †

IT’S TOUGH BEING PRO-ABORTION

It must be tough being pro-abortion. Pro-abortionists can never rest as if the issue is finally settled. Because it is not. The issue keeps on surfacing and it is getting more and more difficult to stamp out endless eruptions or wild fires. Since 1988, there have been more than 40 bills or motions advanced, attempting to protect the rights of the unborn child. This has provoked ongoing debate on the issue.

Even the courts are struggling to come to grips with the reality of the human being in the womb.

On April 21, 2016, Mr. Justice Shore, of the Federal Court handed down a decision dealing with the unborn child. In his decision, Judge Shore overturned a decision of the Immigration Appeal Division, that it could not consider “the best interests” of an unborn in an immigration appeal case because the “best interests of a child” applied only to a born child.

Judge Shore, however, decided that the “best interests” of a child should be extended to the unborn child. This con-

clusion was based on the obvious fact that the unborn child becomes a born child, usually before judgment is handed down, and this means that the court must review the “best interests” of the unborn child. According to Judge Shore, the Immigration Department’s decision failed to demonstrate that it was “alive, alert and sensitive to the then unborn child” which should have been very much a consideration in making its decision.

The case arose when an immigrant, a citizen of China, arrived in Canada on a student visa in 2002. He married a Canadian citizen for the sole purpose of convenience in order to be sponsored as a permanent resident. He divorced his wife of convenience, and then entered into a genuine marriage with a Canadian citizen. The Canada Border Services Agency determined that the immigrant was inadmissible to Canada because of his misrepresentation, and a removal order was made against him.

The applicant appealed on humanitarian, compassionate

grounds to the Federal Court, on the grounds that he was now well established in Canada and his wife was five months pregnant. The baby was born in October 2014 before the case was settled.

In his decision, Judge Shore referred to the 2006 case of *Hamzai v. Canadian Minister of Citizenship and Immigration*, which had concluded that there were no distinguishing factors that would make the case of an unborn child any different from that of a born child. The “best interests” of the born child were that of the unborn child, because they were

one and the same individual.

As a result, Judge Shore concluded that the applicant should be allowed to remain in Canada on humanitarian and compassionate grounds on the basis that the applicant, his wife and new born child bring a positive contribution to Canada. Also, it was determined that the failure to consider the best interests of the unborn child in the departmental order for removal, was improper.

One has to deal with the reality of the presence of the unborn child in real life, and Judge Shore did just that. †

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Welcome to the June 2016 e-newsletter of REALity

This may seem like a pipe dream, but I hope by the time you are reading this issue of REALity, Bill C-14 legalizing euthanasia and assisted suicide has not yet become legislation. It may thus not be too late to continue writing the government to voice our objections. The Senate may be the “wildcard” on the fate of Bill C-14. Therefore it is urgent to write to members of the Senate as they continue to debate. http://www.parl.gc.ca/SenatorsBio/contact_information. There is a sample letter on our website. <http://www.realwomenofcanada.ca/write-your-mp-regarding-bill-c-14-physician-assisted-suicide/>. You can write to

any Member of Parliament and address your letter to: House of Commons, Ottawa ON K1A 0A6 or any Senator and address your letter to: Senate of Canada, Ottawa ON K1A 0A4. If the Senate approves the Bill, then this badly flawed, vaguely worded document will become law. Regardless of what happens, we must increase our care and compassion for those who are vulnerable and marginalized, so that euthanasia and assisted suicide are not considered viable options. We must try to show mercy to those who are suffering, whether it be physical, psychological, social or spiritual. There is a great need for more palliative care in Canada. Also, many residents of nursing homes do not receive visitors from outside the building. Let's look closely at what we can do on a more personal level to accompany those near the end of life's journey.

Thank you for being women and men building a better society.

Thank you for your support of REAL Women of Canada.

Pauline Guzik

Pauline Guzik
National President

REMINDER

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Friday, June 17th, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m.
at the North York Central Library
5120 Yonge Street, Toronto, Ontario M2N 5N9
Hall #1.

FEATURING GUEST SPEAKER

CHARLES LEWIS

Anti-euthanasia activist and
former religion reporter of *The National Post*.

Our speaker's topic will be:
Euthanasia: What Now?

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