## Justice, Peace and Life

November 2025

#### Time is Running Out: Tell Gov. Hochul to Veto Physician-Assisted Suicide

The governor could decide at any time to sign or veto the bill that would legalize physicianassisted suicide in New York. Please ask her to oppose this attack on human dignity.

From The Patient Rights Action Fund:

The dangerous policy of assisted suicide puts our most vulnerable neighbors at significant risk. We must remind our legislators that **suicide is not medical care**, and we deserve better access to quality care, such as in-home hospice and palliative care, not an ill-conceived public policy that puts patients at risk of mistakes, coercion, and abuse. Despite proponent claims, the facts are clear that people access assisted suicide for reasons of disability, not for pain.



Here are some of the reasons why they must oppose assisted suicide:

- Patients have been <u>denied coverage</u> for lifesaving treatment and offered assisted suicide instead.
- Young women with anorexia have been given lethal drugs by their doctor under this same policy in Colorado and Oregon.
- Pain and suffering, or even concern about it, never make it into the top 5 reasons why patients die by assisted suicide in <u>Oregon</u>. Rather, the most commonly cited reasons are disability related concerns, which is why the National Council on Disability rejects assisted suicide.
- Mental conditions are ignored and <u>depressed patients</u> receive the lethal medications.
- Doctors make <u>mistakes</u> and patients who are not dying receive the prescription drugs.

Please contact Governor Hochul at <u>this link</u> and then CALL her office after you e-mail at 1-518-474-8390. Visit <u>patientsrightsaction.org</u> for more information.

#### A Doctor's View: Protect My Patients!

"[A]Ithough massive doses of lethal drugs are given to patients with the "promise" of a serene death, in reality, reports from Oregon indicate the dying process may require several hours. During that time, patients often thrash about and struggle to breathe. In fact, the administered drugs are experimental, as there is no medical oversight of the compounding and administration of these lethal cocktails. The FDA has approved no drugs for the purpose of inducing death. There are no reputable studies of such medications, and no medical societies have published guidelines on the use of medications for the purpose of ending a life."

From Dr. Kevin Garner's <u>op-ed</u> speaking out against the legalization of assisted suicide in Illinois



'Euthanasia Protest' (photo: Sean Aidan Calderbank / Shutterstock)

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#### Statement from Our U.S. Bishops:



### "We Oppose the Indiscriminate Mass Deportation of People"

"As pastors, we the bishops of the United States are bound to our people by ties of communion and compassion in Our Lord Jesus Christ. We are disturbed when we see among our people a climate of fear and anxiety around questions of profiling and immigration enforcement. We are saddened by the state of contemporary debate and the vilification of immigrants. We are concerned about the conditions in detention centers and the lack of access to pastoral care. We lament that some immigrants in the United States have arbitrarily lost their legal status. We are troubled by threats against the sanctity of houses of worship and the special nature of hospitals and schools. We are grieved when we meet parents who fear being detained when taking their children to school and when we try to console family members who have already been separated from their loved ones.

Despite obstacles and prejudices, generations of immigrants have made enormous contributions to the well-being of our nation. We as Catholic bishops love our country and pray for its peace and prosperity. For this very reason, we feel compelled now in this environment to raise our voices in defense of God-given human dignity.

Catholic teaching exhorts nations to recognize the fundamental dignity of all persons, including immigrants. We bishops advocate for a meaningful reform of our nation's immigration laws and procedures. Human dignity and national security are not in conflict. Both are possible if people of good will work together.

We recognize that nations have a responsibility to regulate their borders and establish a just and orderly immigration system for the sake of the common good. Without such processes, immigrants face the risk of trafficking and other forms of exploitation. Safe and legal pathways serve as an antidote to such risks.

Read the statement at this <u>link</u> and hear it read the bishops read it at this link.

# How Would Jesus Shop? Think before you buy this holiday season.



Don't feed into the consumer frenzy! Spend time with your family and prepare your heart for Advent instead of shopping on Black Friday.



- Strengthen your local economy.
- **2** Reduce climate change impacts.
- **Support community groups.**
- Keep our community unique.
- Create more quality jobs.
- **Get better service.** 
  - Invest in your community.
    - **Encourage local prosperity.** 
      - Put your taxes to good use.
        - 100 Buy what you need. Don't buy the hype.

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