

A Review on EUTHANASIA

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Abstract- Euthanasia, also called mercy killing, act or practice of painlessly putting to death persons suffering from painful and incurable disease or incapacitating physical disorder or allowing them to die by withholding treatment or withdrawing artificial life-support measures.

I. INTRODUCTION

Euthanasia, also called mercy killing, act or practice of painlessly putting to death persons suffering from painful and incurable disease or incapacitating physical disorder or allowing them to die by withholding treatment or withdrawing artificial life-support measures.

Euthanasia is performed by the attending physician administering a fatal dose of a suitable drug to the patient on his or her express request. It is a physician assisted suicide refers to deliberate action taken with the intention of ending a life, in order to relieve persistent suffering. In most countries, euthanasia is against the law and it may carry a jail sentence. In United States, the law varies between states.

II. ELABORATIVE APPROACH



III. TYPES OF EUTHANASIA

1. Active euthanasia
2. Passive euthanasia

3. Indirect euthanasia
4. Physician assisted suicide

• ACTIVE EUTHANASIA

Active euthanasia is when death is brought about by an act- for example when a person is killed by being given an overdose of pain-killer.

• PASSIVE EUTHANASIA

Passive euthanasia is when death is brought about by an omission i.e. when someone lets the person die.

• INDIRECT EUTHANASIA

Indirect euthanasia means providing treatment (usually to reduce pain) that has the side effect of speeding the patient's death. Since the primary intention is not to kill, this is seen by some people as morally accepted.

• PHYSICIAN ASSISTED SUICIDE

Physician assisted suicide involves a physician (doctor) knowingly and intentionally providing a person with the knowledge or means or both required to commit suicide, including counseling about lethal doses of drugs, prescribing such lethal doses or supplying the drugs.

As of now, euthanasia is legal in the following countries:

1. Netherland
2. France
3. Colombia
4. Luxembourg
5. Canada
6. Switzerland
7. United States

IV. EUTHANASIA IN INDIA



ARUNA SHANBAUG CASE

Aruna Ramchandra Shanbaug(1 June 1948 to 18 May 2015), was an Indian nurse who was at the centre of attention in a court case on euthanasia after spending 42 years in a vegetative state as a result of sexual assault. However, in its landmark opinion, it allowed passive euthanasia in India.

NAME: Aruna Ramchandra Shanbaug
BORN: Haldipur, Karnataka, India
DIED: 18 May 2015(age 66) KEM Hospital, Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
CAUSE OF DEATH: Pneumonia
NATIONALITY: Indian
OCCUPATION: Nurse

In 1973, while working as a junior nurse at King Edward Memorial Hospital, Parel, Mumbai, Shanbaug was sexually assaulted by a ward boy, Sohanlal Bhartha Walmiki, and remained in vegetative state following the assault. On 24 January 2011, after she had been in this state for 37 years, the Supreme Court of India responded to the plea for euthanasia filed by journalist Pinki Virani, by setting up a medical panel to examine her. However, in its landmark opinion, it allowed passive euthanasia in India.

Shanbaug died of pneumonia on 18 May 2015 after being in a persistent vegetative state for nearly 42 years.

CONCLUSION

The only human choice is to allow individuals who are suffering to choose to end their sufferings. Further, the discrepancies in the law as they exist and how they are being enforced have led to uncertainty. This uncertainty leaves the doctors, their patients and patient's loved ones unprotected.

REFERENCES

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