



SENIORS AGAINST SUICIDE

- Illness Is Never a Reason for Ending a Life -

Brittany's Cancer Treatable and with Successful Remissions

Sacramento, CA - 5/18 - On Sunday, March 29th, CBS **60 Minutes** explored the 'near miraculous' treatment regime that has actually brought remissions for Glioblastoma cancer, (Brittany Maynard's cancer) as recently as November proclaimed to be "hopeless and incurable".

"This amazing story is both groundbreaking and tragic," said Clinical Psychologist Dr. Mark Hoffman, spokesman for California Seniors Against Suicide. "If Brittany Maynard, who had been convinced to end it all, would have just waited until Spring the amazing hope now being offered in this landmark study would have opened a new world of hope to this attractive and vibrant, yet clearly depressed young woman."

The story by [60 Minutes reporter Scott Pelley, is available here](#). The unheard of treatment regime actually uses polio to attack the cancer. The body's immune system then attacks the 'infected' cancer. Clinical trials have now been refined so that the most recent participants have become 'cancer clear' and are in remission.

Maynard's condition and her request for suicide in California has become a centerpiece for a concerted, mediagenic focus on changing the law. " This amazing turn of events only underscores the need to not simply surrender to depression and suicidal ideation, which is in fact a desperate cry of emotional need, not physical," said Hoffman.

"It is very common for those with terminal diagnoses to make such requests which is why Kubler-Ross wrote her landmark book in the 1960's **"On Death and Dying"**". "It is very clear acceding to, and offering patients intentional killing, does not help a patients emotional need when they make such requests. In fact you don't even address the real cry for emotional support and significance such requests have always indicated. Kubler-Ross was very clear, we must walk them through the now famous 'five stages of emotional growth,' and it is then that we see contentment and emotional peace and resolve, sometimes accompanied by actual physical improvement. The latter is not guaranteed, but the emotional care and involvement is what does bring comfort when accompanied by physical comfort care.

'It is an insult to her memory to allow, unexamined, the continued promotion of Brittany's death as an emotional tool too change current law to authorize medicine for killing, and approve 3rd party agents involvement in suicide, without any culpability or investigation," said Hoffman.

"This practice has been discouraged and prohibited by law for centuries and for good reason. In every jurisdiction in which this new law is put in effect, Oregon, Belgium, Netherlands and Switzerland, abuses and killing of the non-terminal are documented and are taking place. And like Brittany Maynard, those who though diagnosed, might otherwise live for years, are simply encouraged to jump over the cliff of lethal action."
(See exhaustive documentation here: euthanasia.com)

A Coalition of Seniors dedicated to hope, comfort, and care
for the medically dependent and the emotionally vulnerable.

Northern California 916-548-1089
Southern California 310-962-1131