

South Australian Voluntary Euthanasia Society Inc. (SAVES)

Patrons: Emeritus Professors JA Richardson, Graham Nerlich and John Willoughby

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Rossiter decision: starving and dehydration What a way to go!

The decision made by the WA courts yesterday in regard to Mr Christian Rossiter's right to not be force-fed is already enshrined in SA law, but what a way to go, says the President of the South Australian Voluntary Euthanasia Society (SAVES).

SAVES President, Frances Coombe, says that leaving a person with no other option but to starve and dehydrate to death is a shameful cruelty in the 21st century.

"A person should be allowed the choice of a quick and peaceful death through legal voluntary euthanasia.

"Under South Australian law people can already give instructions to be disconnected from life support systems, so no South Australian would need to take this to court.

"But it is not good enough that anyone in these circumstances, leading an unbearable and intolerable life, has no other choice.

"Further suffering will be imposed by the slow death of starvation and dehydration.

"Once again, the urgent need for legal voluntary euthanasia has been underlined dramatically.

"SAVES reminds the general public that there are two different voluntary euthanasia bills in the SA Parliament at the present time, and calls on MPs to show compassion and commonsense in supporting them when they are put to a vote before the end of the year" Ms Coombe said.

Further information:

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